Daily Report

Latin America

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CONTENTS

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Nicaragua's Daniel Ortega, Delegation End Visit 1
Murillo at Design Firm 1
Ortega Visits Film School 1
Castro at Farewell Ceremony 1
Minibrigades Discuss Deficiencies, Solutions 2
Castro, Ortega Attend 2
Castro Speaks at Closing 2
U.S. Preparing 'Direct Intervention' in Panama 4
CPSU Debates Said Marked by Differing Views 4
Risquet Briefs Mengistu on Quadripartite Talks 4
Further Reports on Visit *[cross-reference]* 4
Ghana's Prime Minister Obeng Concludes Visit 4
Meets With Rodriguez 4
Rodriguez at Departure 5
Castro Visits Uruguayan Child, Accident Victims 5
CDR Directive Controls Release of Information 5
CTC Sets Goals To Mark Anniversary of Founding 5

Haiti

PDCH Proposes Return to 1987 Constitution 5
APN Outlines Condition for Free Elections 6
Creation of Local Affairs Councils Likely 6
Workers Group Urges Rehiring Flour Mill Workers 6
New Teleco Board of Directors Announced 6

Trinidad and Tobago

Poll Finds Large Support for Sacked Ministers 6
Penalty Increased for Colombian Drug Dealer 7

MEXICO

Morales Decision Defended as Domestic Matter *[UNOMASUNO 29 Jun]* 8
President Urges Nationwide Fight Against Drugs *[THE NEWS 28 Jun]* 8

CENTRAL AMERICA

El Salvador

People 'Welcome' Shultz With Clashes, Protests *[Venceremos]* 9
Army Repels FMLN Attack on Garrison; 8 Wounded 9

Honduras

Lopez Contreras Responds to D'Escoto Note *[LA TRIBUNA 30 Jun]* 9

Nicaragua

Ortega on Cuba Visit, Shultz Trip, Cease-Fire 10

Humberto Ortega Statement on Military Defenses 16
Defense Ministry Reports on Contra Attacks 16
Bishops Conference Urges Peace, Dialogue 16

Panama

Rumor of Solis Palma Resignation Denied 17
Foreign Minister on Group of Eight Meeting *[Mexico City EL NACIONAL 28 Jun]* 17
Tax Clearance Certificates Invalidated *[MATUTINO 30 Jun]* 17
Finance Ministry Resolution on Tax Payments *[CRITICA 29 Jun]* 17
Briefs 19
Nicaragua Donates Fertilizer 19

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Topics for Shultz Visit in August Outlined 20
Bank President Comments on New Agreement 20
Presidential Hopeful on UK Property Bill 21
Army Corps Commander Denies Report on Bombing 21

Bolivia

Traffickers Said Linked With Tunari Incidents 21

Brazil

Sarney on Trip, New Measures; Departs for PRC 21
Schedule for Sarney Visit to PRC Announced 22
Sarney Praises Relations With Argentina *[TELAM]* 22
Finance Minister Nobrega To Visit U.S., Japan 23
Members of Medellin Cartel Sentenced 23
Central Bank Announces Economic Indicators 23
Briefs 23
Inflation Rate Announced 23

Chile

Government Against OAS Debate on Haiti 23
Deputy Foreign Minister To Visit Argentina 24
Comments on Ties 24
Police Break Up Demonstrations Called by CNT 24
'Revolutionary Front' Attacks Lourdes Grotto 24
Arrests for Carrying Weapons in San Fernando 24

Colombia

M-19 Sends 12-Point Proposal to Government 25
Government Studying Offer 25
Proposal 'Not Acceptable' 26
Turbay Accepts Liberal Party Leader Nomination 26

Ecuador

Bucaram Arrives in Panama; Seeks Asylum *[DPA]* 26

Peru

President Garcia Calls for Order, Discipline 26
Alleged Shining Path Terrorists Murder Mayor *[EFE]* 28

Cuba

Nicaragua's Daniel Ortega, Delegation End Visit

Murillo at Design Firm

FL3006173488 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Continuing her tour of several Cuban cultural organizations, today Rosario Murillo, secretary general of the Sandinist Association of Cultural Workers, visited the National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists [UNEAC] and the (Contex) trade firm. At the UNEAC offices, the Nicaraguan leader was received by UNEAC President Abel Prieto and First Vice President Jose Loyola. The main topics discussed were the UNEAC's organizational structure, work with provincial affiliates, and general work mechanisms.

Later on, (Contex) President Caridad Abrantes showed the visitor drafts of a new line called "Comando 2000," with 120 outfits, each of which makes several functional combinations possible. (Contex) will take part in Nicaragua's national designers forum with a report on designs based on native cultural traditions.

Ortega Visits Film School

FL3006185488 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has toured the facilities of the International Film, Television, and Video School in San Antonio de los Banos. He was accompanied by Osmani Cienfuegos, member of the PCC Politburo, and other Cuban leaders. They were received by Gabriel Garcia Marquez and school director Fernando Birri, with whom they visited the main facilities. The Nicaraguan group viewed the projection and editing rooms, dubbing booths, and video and sound editing laboratories.

Afterward, Ortega held a fraternal talk with the students, asking about the living and study conditions of the young people from Latin America and other continents who are attending the school, and about the kind of degree they obtain which they will later apply in their countries.

Castro at Farewell Ceremony

FL3006144888 [Editorial Report] Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 1308 GMT on 30 June carries live coverage of the farewell ceremony for Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega from Havana's Jose Marti International Airport.

A sign over the airport shows a slogan underneath a picture of Ortega that says: "Happy Return"

Ortega and Castro are shown getting out of the same car. They then take their respective positions for the ceremony, which begins at 1311 GMT.

After the Cuban and Nicaraguan national anthems are played, Colonel Guerrero Ramos marches toward Ortega and announces that the honor guard is ready for review. Castro and Ortega are then shown reviewing the troops.

Following the review, Ortega and Castro take a few moments to shake hands with the people in the receiving line. Ortega, greeting the diplomatic corps accredited to Cuba, stops momentarily to speak with a man identified by the announcer as the Ecuadoran envoy.

PCC Politburo members Armando Hart and Roberto Veiga and alternate Politburo member Jose Ramon Fernandez are standing in the receiving line. Jorge Lezcano, first secretary of the party in Havana, is also shown standing in line.

"Ortega's visit has undoubtedly had great international repercussions and it has been an opportunity for our people to personally greet the Sandinist leader, who, as coordinator of the Executive Committee of the FSLN, has come to our country at the invitation of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro," says the announcer.

"Ortega, alongside Fidel, walks toward the men and women of Havana who are waving Cuban and Nicaraguan flags to give a warm farewell to the representative of the Sandinist revolution," says the announcer. The crowd is shown standing behind a cordoned area and they can be heard shouting: "Viva Cuba! Viva Nicaragua! Viva the FSLN!" The reporter announces that "Ortega approaches the crowd and warmly greets the men and women here." The camera shows Ortega shaking hands with the people.

At 1321 GMT, the announcer reports that the farewell ceremony has ended and Ortega and Castro then proceed toward the plane. Castro is shown shaking hands with the Nicaraguan delegation which is standing at the foot of the steps to the airplane. "For his part," says the announcer, "Daniel is saying goodbye to the Cuban leaders." Ortega is shown shaking hands and embracing Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Politburo member Osmani Cienfuegos.

Castro then is shown greeting the children that are part of the Nicaragua delegation. The camera gives a close-up shot of Ortega holding an unidentified baby and then handing the infant to Castro. "Some of these children belong to Daniel Ortega and others to Comrade Rosario Murillo, also a leader of the Sandinist revolution who has participated in this trip and the talks held in Cuba," says the announcer.

Ortega and Castro then embrace and the camera shows Ortega walking up the steps to the plane and waving to the crowd from the doorway.

While the airplane taxis down the runway, the announcer reviews some of Ortega's activities in Cuba, including the floral wreath he laid at the Jose Marti

monument; the official talks he had with Castro; the Jose Marti Order he received; the reception he attended; and the tour of several installations he made with Castro, as well as the meeting of the minibrigades he attended last night in Havana.

Castro waves as the plane takes off at 1333 GMT.

Minibrigades Discuss Deficiencies, Solutions

FL2906203688 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] Our country's industrial development stresses oil, electricity generation, and tourism. In the social sphere, we are making progress in extending services and increasing the number of housing units. The minibrigades movement in Havana consists of 30,000 hard hats. There are also similar groups in other parts of Cuba. Approximately 3,000 projects are under construction in the capital. Family doctor offices, thousands of houses, child care centers, bakeries, and supermarkets are being built as part of a crash program. The materials industry is being subjected to extreme pressure to respond to this construction boom that is now entering its 3d year. The production of steel and various other commodities and materials has increased. Installation of stone mills, tile factories, and other units is being speeded up.

The minibrigades are encountering many difficulties caused by the very magnitude of the country's construction drive. Materials are scarce. Either some projects are not right for the conditions of the land or the equipment is not all available.

In order to analyze these deficiencies and find the best solutions, the minibrigade members are meeting this afternoon at Havana's Karl Marx Theater. In less than 2 years, the face of the capital city has been transformed. In addition to the new houses, bakeries, doctors offices, and child care centers, there are the new superhighways being built by the Blas Roca Calderio contingent. Obstacles exist, but so does the determination to overcome these obstacles. The new rectification spirit is evident in the projects completed on schedule which are immediately put to use. It is also evident in the gradual introduction of multiple assignments and the determination to find new solutions to old problems.

Castro, Ortega Attend

FL3006174988 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee, has closed the minibrigade meeting in Havana's Karl Marx Theater, which was attended by more than 5,000 minibrigade members.

Fidel gave a detailed analysis regarding the state of construction material in Cuba. He said that one must work rapidly on these new investments.

Our commander in chief was accompanied by Daniel Ortega Saavedra, president of the Republic of Nicaragua.

Party and government leaders in Havana and the heads of several ministries also participated in the meeting.

Castro Speaks at Closing

FL3006213388 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1148 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Remarks by President Fidel Castro at the closing of the minibrigade meeting at Havana's Karl Marx Theater on 29 June—recorded]

[Text] We had to get out of the normal pattern. We had to work day and night. Work is being done on many of these projects day and night.

We have discovered that some of these have more problems than others, like the cement factory. The Santiago de Cuba cement factory continued deteriorating. It produced less each year and it could have collapsed at any minute. I know that the cement program is intense. It is one of those that has to be followed more closely. Even cement exports have almost been suspended. We are also trying to save on projects. There are many ways to save, many possibilities.

I see all these difficulties but I'm far from feeling pessimistic. We truly have to think about the magnitude of what we're doing and we can't content ourselves with less. We have to make the efforts that the circumstances require. Lost years have to be recovered. Accumulated problems have to be resolved and we cannot regret that we have proposed an ambitious plan.

If we hadn't proposed ambitious plans, we wouldn't be doing anything. If we thought about whether we could do it or not, we wouldn't even have started the revolution. The revolution itself is the most ambitious of all plans and the most difficult of all tasks.

That is why I'm not pessimistic because I know what's going on and I know what's required. We want you to share with us, as it were, this information, knowledge of what is being done. Many comrades here have responsibilities in these tasks and I think it has been very useful.

In my opinion, the panorama is much clearer now. We can be more precise about where we have difficulties. There are many things we need to take care of.

This meeting has been very good for me because we have been able to see the overall situation a little more clearly and, above all, we are more aware of the need to follow this process closely, making sure that we don't forget,

that we forget absolutely nothing. We cannot feel satisfied. We have to be very demanding and prevent morale, the spirit of struggle, from falling even just a little bit.

We have to be aware of these problems, these difficulties. We also need to be aware of the efforts to which we have committed ourselves to keep reducing these problems.

I expect we'll have fewer problems of this nature as time passes. I think we are heading toward 1989 and 1990 with an enormous construction force and a growing productivity. Advances are being made in many areas in construction. Now, the problem of materials... [changes thought] Previously, we couldn't finish anything at all.

I went on a tour yesterday with the comrades from the Nicaraguan delegation. They are very interested in what we are doing here. We went on a small tour yesterday. We began with a child care center. It was the only institution that we saw operating. We went there because the Nicaraguan comrades helped us build that center in the Vedado. I think its called the Los Compas child care center. We wanted the Nicaraguan delegation to see this center. Then we immediately went... [changes thought] First, we went to the Pedro Borras Hospital. It is Borras; isn't it? I can't remember the name. We went there to see a group of children who were injured in the unfortunate accident that occurred in Guanabacoa. We continued from there.

We went to see something that is very encouraging: the family doctor house-office constructed by the university students in Marianao. It is very encouraging. I had already met with the 44 comrades who participated in this project and I truly admired what those boys were able to do. They did it seriously and with quality. We wanted to show the Nicaraguans an example of what our students could do. Those youths were there. In addition to building the doctor house-office, they were studying. They had sessions in the afternoon and they went to the construction site in the morning. Some of them would return at night. They would go there on Saturdays and Sundays. Those boys improved academically while they were working. It is a notable thing. Our revolution can feel proud to see those very serious youths, to see their dedication and how they were able to build this project.

They are going to build a child care center next year. Those of Diez de Octubre—I believe they are students from three pre-university schools—are also going to build projects. In addition, there are 20,000 students involved, helping in activities of this kind in the various provinces.

From there, we immediately went on to see the Blas Roca contingent. As you know, it is a collective of admirable workers. We observed everything along the 8.5 km route. We went up to the bridge over 51st Avenue, the old central highway. It's completed already. It's incredible how in a few months these comrades have built a large part of this big embankment, how they have built the most important bridges. And they are moving rapidly on the rest of the bridges. You should see the quality and the productivity of these comrades. You should see the low costs. There's no more bull here. Every penny is accounted for. With just a few workers! The utilization of the equipment, the maintenance of the equipment, the average life of this equipment, is amazing to see.

So is the example these workers have set for the country. Contingents similar to the Blas Roca are multiplying. Now anyone who wants to build a project in Moa or anywhere else and who wants to build fast, do double the amount of work with half the crew—yes, do double the amount of work with half the crew—should observe the Blas Roca contingent, which has not disappointed those who had faith in it. It has four brigades, and they are now organizing a fifth to build hotels. Just wait until you hear, for example, that they are building a very luxurious, 5-star hotel; you then can say, oh, yes, that's good.

Some people who don't understand ask: Why are we doing this? We have no materials, etc. That's just it. We're doing it so that we can have the materials. For instance, we are building a hotel in partnership with capitalists. We are going to build it fast. Why? So that we can have foreign exchange. That's what you use to buy the British engine, the extraction machine, the block-making machine, or the brick-making machine. Or what you use to buy a lot of the construction equipment, the BPCPVC [not further identified], the raw materials, and so forth. That's what you use to buy a lot of things.

Unfortunately, you need foreign exchange for all that. And so we must find it. Our problem now is not whether we are going to be able to stay at the 5-star hotel, but whether we are going to have decent housing for each family, well-built, decent, clean, pretty housing. The problem is whether we are going to be able to eradicate the unhealthy neighborhoods that still remain. We have to build a lot of this kind of project. We are going to assign a brigade of the Blas Roca contingent to build a 5-star, 4-star, or whatever—the highest number of stars—hotel. We are going to go by the hotel. We are not going to go in. We are going to look at it from a distance and say, how nice. Why? To get foreign exchange. What is foreign exchange for? For the welfare, the development, the benefit of our people. It's not going to be foreign exchange for capitalists but for everything I have just said.

I believe that all those who have been here today must have become a little more aware of the importance of this foreign exchange. It's to get what we can't obtain in the socialist countries, unfortunately. We can get a lot of things, wonderful things, from socialist countries. Basically, we can get wonderful things from the USSR. We can get many things from the USSR, for which we are and always will be grateful. However, we can't get everything. We need this and that to complement our effort.

Much of our construction equipment is Soviet-made and it is good equipment. But all of a sudden we may have to get a front-loader [cargador frontal]. They are not made in the USSR or anywhere else. It has to be paid for with cash. Credit used to be available to buy these things.

Now it has to be cash. Or perhaps we need a 220-horsepower bulldozer. They don't have it. So we have to go to the international market to buy the bulldozer. Sometimes it's a crane on a 30-ton truck, etc. Anything that we can get in socialist countries, we do.

U.S. Preparing 'Direct Intervention' in Panama

FL3006152988 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1140 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Report by Daniel Torres in the "Hot Off the Press" segment]

[Excerpt] According to reports monitored on Panamanian radio stations and articles published in the principal papers published today in Panama City, everything seems to indicate that the United States is preparing a direct military intervention against Panama.

Reports we have obtained from collaborators in Panama also indicate that the United States is using the pretext of a so-called exercise in which they will evacuate their civilian personnel from Panama. They say that even Ambassador Arthur Davis is now in Washington. Everything indicates that a military attack against Panama is imminent. Panama's morning newspapers today carried large headlines warning of this event.

So that you have some idea of how far this has gone, they have sent back to the United States coffins and plastic bags [words indistinct] if they decide to carry out this attack against the people of Panama.

I should tell you that the people of Panama mobilized today after hearing this news and the situation is very tense.

There were also reports that ex-President Eric Arturo Delvalle, who was going to meet with George Shultz, will be moved from Howard Air Force Base, where he is hiding. He will be transported to Costa Rica, where he will reportedly meet with Mr Shultz.

The U.S. mobilization in Panama is so huge that Cobra helicopters have been transferred to areas that were previously used only by civilians because there is no room for them in military installations. The United States has in Panama an additional 3,000 U.S. troops from elite divisions in addition to the 10,000 troops from the Southern Command. They now have 13,000 troops present in Panama. [passage omitted including indistinct portion]

CPSU Debates Said Marked by Differing Views

FL3006192688 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] The 19th All-Union CPSU Conference began its third working session today at the Kremlin. Yesterday's session was characterized by the differences in the views voiced concerning the progress of the economic reform and the support for the changes in the USSR's political system. The proposed reform of the Soviet of Nationalities sparked the interest of the participants. This is one of the two chambers of the Soviet parliament in which the more than 120 nations and national minorities of the Soviet Union are represented.

Prominent among those who have spoken at the conference, which now number 25, was the director of the industrial association for the building of machinery and tools in (Ivanovo), who, though criticizing the bureaucratic style of the industry's management, stated that the reform is beginning to bear fruit. Up to now, 205 delegates have asked to take the floor for the remaining days of the conference. No announcement has been made as to when the conference will end.

Risquet Briefs Mengistu on Quadripartite Talks

FL2906204188 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1945 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] Today Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo, departed Ethiopia after having concluded a working and friendship visit. During his visit, Risquet was received by Mengistu Haile Mariam, president of Ethiopia. Risquet and Mengistu held a 4-hour discussion of topics related to bilateral relations and African issues, in particular the fight against apartheid and the situation in the cone of Africa.

Mengistu, on this occasion, received a report on the quadripartite meeting which was held in Cairo to find a solution to the conflict in southwestern Africa.

The Cuban leader also met in Addis Ababa with leaders of the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, to inform them about the meeting in Egypt, where Cuba and Angola maintained that the guarantee of Namibian independence is based on the application of the UN resolution.

Further Reports on Visit

For Addis Ababa radio accounts of the visit to Ethiopia by PCC Politburo member Jorge Risquet Valdes, including his meeting with President Mengistu Haile Mariam and other officials, see the Ethiopia subsection of the East Africa section of the 29 June Sub-Saharan Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Ghana's Prime Minister Obeng Concludes Visit

Meets With Rodriguez

FL2906183388 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] This morning Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, received Paul Victor Obeng, prime minister of Ghana.

During the talks, which were held in a fraternal atmosphere, they discussed topics related to the current international political situation and matters of interest to the two countries.

The African leader referred to the good impression he received from his visit to the Isle of Youth, especially the Kwame Nkrumah school, where more than 500 Ghanaian youths study. He said that many of the experiences seen there can be put into practice in his country.

Also present at the meeting were Kwame Peprah, minister of lands and natural resources, and (Coyo Hasel), an official, who are members of the delegation accompanying the prime minister of Ghana.

Rodriguez at Departure

FL3006140188 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Today Paul Victor Obeng, prime minister of Ghana and member of the Provisional National Defense Council, ended his nearly week-long visit to our country. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, saw Obeng and his delegation off at the airport. The distinguished African officials toured places of economic, cultural, and historical interest in Havana, Santiago de Cuba, Cienfuegos, and the Isle of Youth. Shortly before his departure from the Jose Marti International Airport, Obeng said he was pleased with his visit, which had been very productive. He said his government is trying to reduce the effects among Ghanaians of the international economic crisis affecting Third World countries.

Castro Visits Uruguayan Child, Accident Victims

FL2706131888 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] For the second time Commander in Chief Fidel Castro has visited Tanya Perreria, the Uruguayan child who had surgery on a tumor in her spinal cord. I came to see you, Fidel said to the girl, who was pleased by the visit.

Fidel gave Tanya and her parents pictures of all of them together. He also expressed an interest in the girl's health, which, according to staff physicians, has now stabilized, reflecting a slight improvement.

Fidel previously visited Calixto Garcia Hospital, where he expressed an interest in those injured in last Saturday's bus-train accident in Guanabacoa municipality, which caused 27 deaths and more than 80 injuries.

CDR Directive Controls Release of Information

FL2806184588 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1409 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] The National Executive Secretariat of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] has decided to stop the issuance of the "I certify that" reports [los hago constar], for which the CDR had been receiving requests. The Secretariat also approved a circular specifying what organizations may request information. According to the document, the PCC and the Union of Young Communists are authorized to request reports to verify their growth processes and in other cases as necessary. The State Committee for Labor and Social Security and the Justice Ministry may also ask the CDR for information solely to make determinations in certain cases.

[Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 1100 GMT on 28 June notes that for the state committee, these cases pertain to "matters related to pensions and economic assistance requirements and to youths proposed for training abroad," and for the ministry, "to the cancellation of penal records and the election of lay judges."]

The Secretariat's circular establishes that officials designated by the authorized organs must present identification in order to obtain the information, which will always be of a public nature.

CTC Sets Goals To Mark Anniversary of Founding

FL2906174288 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1423 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] The tasks of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC] in connection with its 50th anniversary are aimed at the political and ideological education of the workers on the basis of historical events and the struggles and achievements of the trade union movement. Rosario Fernandez, member of the CTC Secretariat, has told the news media about the CTC's principal objectives on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of its founding on 28 January 1939. In this regard, the CTC and the Cuban Historians Union have called on professionals, amateurs, and the general public to take part in the national 50th CTC founding anniversary history contest.

Immortal trade union figures such as Lazaro Pena will be remembered during this important period of CTC activities.

Haiti

PDCH Proposes Return to 1987 Constitution

FL3006155688 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Excerpts] In a memorandum, the leaders of the PDCH [Haitian Christian Democratic Party] say: We do not at all understand the military president's logic when he says that the Haitian people are not ready for elections, that the people don't have a political problem, that the general is the champion of human rights, and that only the Army can bring about democracy.

The PDCH asserts that the Haitian people aspire to true democracy and want to choose their leaders through free and honest elections. [passage omitted]

The PDCH says it thinks that, in fact, the Haitian people's problems are, first and foremost, political. It asserts that the people would derive satisfaction only from finding out when there will be elections.

The PDCH suggests to the military government that it return to the Constitution of 1987, taking into particular account Article 149 on a vacancy in the presidency. The party invites all social and professional organizations, unions, and political parties and institutions to a get-together for discussion [concertation], with a view to obtaining a return to constitutionality. The PDCH hopes to hold this get-together on Tuesday, 5 July, at 1600.

APN Outlines Condition for Free Elections

FL3006162488 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] Yesterday morning, the APN [People's National Assembly] called for unity among all people's organizations to confront the new juncture in Haiti.

The APN was discussing the political situation during a press conference and said it felt the democratic forces [words indistinct]. The APN leaders feel that the only way to have free, honest, and democratic elections in Haiti is to form a provisional people's government to hold such elections.

Creation of Local Affairs Councils Likely

FL3006163188 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] According to LE QUOTIDIEN DU MIDI, which is directed by Pierre Robert Auguste, we are heading toward the creation of councils for the administrative district. This paper announces that the military government is envisioning creating administrative district councils to promote participation by local populations in the management of local public affairs.

The paper, quoting a reliable source, says these administrative district councils will be given the task of identifying the local population's needs and playing a role in health and education.

The paper also says that these administrative district councils might be made up mostly of former parliamentarians.

The creation of these administrative district advisers could be announced sometime this week.

Workers Group Urges Rehiring Flour Mill Workers

FL3006160688 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Excerpts] The Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers, CATH, is asking that the 89 workers fired last week from the Minoterie d'Haiti [national flour mill] be rehired. CATH says the strikers were protesting only the return of the mill's current director, whom they consider a bad administrator.

In a letter to the minister of social affairs, the CATH also denounces the attempt by the mill's director to link the stand taken by the strikers and the country's political situation. The CATH feels the workers' position is a patriotic, nationalistic, and civic-minded one, and has nothing to do with the current political situation. [passage omitted]

The signatories of the letter also express their surprise at the military's direct intervention to resolve a labor conflict, as was the case at the Minoterie d'Haiti after the 2-day strike.

New Teleco Board of Directors Announced

FL2706221188 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] Teleco [Telecommunications d'Haiti] has a new board of directors. The board of directors of the Banque de la Republique d'Haiti, majority stockholder of Telecommunications d'Haiti S.A.M., advises the public in general and commerce in particular that as of this date, the new board of directors of Telecommunications d'Haiti S.A.M. is composed as follows:

The chairman of the board is the governor of the Banque de la Republique d'Haiti, Mr Onil Millet. The vice chairman is the minister of public works, transport, and telecommunications, Lieutenant Colonel Alphonse Desulme, engineer, Haitian Armed Forces (FADH).

The minister of economy and finance, Colonel Andre Jean-Pierre, FADH, is a member.

Also members are a high-ranking telecommunications technician and engineer, Fritz Michel, and a high-ranking accountant, (Jacques Lallemand).

This was a press release from the Banque de la Republique d'Haiti.

Trinidad and Tobago

Poll Finds Large Support for Sacked Ministers

FL2806220988 Bridgetown CANA in English 1615 GMT 282 Jun 88

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, June 28, CANA—An opinion poll being serialized by the Trinidad Express, found considerable support among respondents for the four ministers sacked by Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson.

The poll by the St Augustine Research Associates (SARA) showed former Works Minister John Humphrey pulled most public sympathy over his dismissal in November 1987, according to results published on Tuesday. Humphrey was followed by former External Affairs Minister Basdeo Panday, former Public Utilities Minister Keelvin Ramnath, and former junior Finance Minister Trevor Sudama.

51 per cent said Humphrey was unjustly fired, 42 per cent said this for Panday, and 37 and 36 per cent respectively said the firing of Ramnath and Sudama was not justified.

Only 26 per cent said Robinson was justified in firing Humphrey. This figure increased to 34 per cent for the dismissal of Panday. And 30 per cent each agreed with the firing of Sudama and Ramnath.

Between a third (33 per cent) and a quarter (24 per cent) of those polled were not certain whether the firing was justified or not.

Given this level of uncertainty and/or opposition to the firing of the members of club 88, it comes as no surprise that there is considerable support for the view that they should be reinstated, SARA said. This is particularly so in the case of John Humphrey and to some extent Panday.

Asked which, if any of the ministers should be reinstated, the respondents opted for Humphrey first (50 per cent) followed by Panday (45 per cent). 32 per cent each said Sudama and Ramnath should be reinstated.

Only 27 per cent of those polled said Humphrey should not be reinstated to cabinet. 34 per cent said no to Panday's return and 38 and 39 per cent for Ramnath and Sudama.

As published on Sunday, 40 per cent of those polled said the National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) should make another attempt for reconciliation.

Penalty Increased for Colombian Drug Dealer

FL2806223688 Bridgetown CANA in English 1627 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, June 28, CANA—Stating that the illicit drug industry can kill society, Trinidad and Tobago's Chief Justice on Monday not only turned down an appeal by a convicted Colombian drug trafficker but increased his sentence.

Christobal Pulicio found his sentence increased from nine to ten years hard labour, when his appeal against his January 1987 conviction came before this country's appeal court.

Drugs and the use of drugs such as cocaine constitute a dangerous practice for any society, Chief Justice Clinton Bernard said in his judgement. The appellant himself said it can kill those who use it. Indeed, it can kill a society, he added.

Pulicio had been arrested in November 1986 and charged with possession of 1,334 grammes of cocaine. He was convicted months later under the country's then one year old tightened up anti narcotics laws.

Bernard said the amount of cocaine Pulicio had in his possession had a large street value which amounted to evil.

Pulicio had told the appeal court that he had a wife and three children back home in Bogota who were all dependent on him. The appellant is a stranger to this country. They are entitled to come if they wish but for lawful purpose, Bernard said. They must not and cannot be allowed to come and engage in an enterprise the end result of which can bring destruction to families and complete destruction of the fabric of our society, Bernard said.

The appeal court also ordered that Pulicio be declared a prohibited immigrant and deported at the end of his sentence.

Another foreigner appearing before the appeal court on Monday was Venezuelan national, Antonio Poban, who was convicted of trafficking in cocaine in November 1986, and sentenced to nine years imprisonment. He also lost his appeal.

Bernard said in this judgement, that his court did have the power to change the sentence imposed by a magistrate.

Giving an update on government's anti-drug activities on Saturday, Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson hinted at even tighter legislation in the pipeline which would allow forfeiture of any unexplained wealth suddenly acquired.

Morales Decision Defended as Domestic Matter

PA3006170288 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 29 Jun 88 p 3

[Editorial: "William Morales: A Domestic Policy Matter"]

[Text] William Morales has served his sentence in Mexico. The grounds for sentencing him are debatable since he could not have committed the crime for which he was found guilty: engaging in a shootout with Interpol agents. He could not have done that because it is physically impossible for the Puerto Rican separatist to hold a gun. He has no hands. Despite this, he was sentenced to serve 8 years in a Mexican jail. Morales exhibited good behavior, and because of this, in view of the fact that he had served three-fourths of his sentence, he was released last week. There was no political, legal, or moral reason for keeping him in prison. Had Mexican authorities acted in any other way, they would have broken the law, the law they have the obligation to respect. On his release, William Morales decided to go to Cuba. He had every right to select his place of residence since he already was, in Mexico, a free man.

The Reagan administration is in such an uproar over Morales' release that it has recalled its ambassador to our country, Charles Pilliod, for consultations. In diplomacy, calling an ambassador home for consultations signifies a harsh reprisal because it creates doubts about the status of bilateral relations. According to State Department spokesman Charles Redman, Mexico has used "completely unacceptable political reasons" to justify Morales' release.

However, what is really completely unacceptable and also out-of-bounds is the White House's censure of the Mexican Government for having released a man who had already served his sentence. Does the State Department expect our government to violate its own laws? Could Mexico demand that Washington do something like that?

The Mexican Government made it clear a long time ago that it would not extradite Morales to the United States—where he was to serve a 99-year sentence, that is, life imprisonment—because he is not a common criminal but a political militant and, as such, he is entitled to the right to asylum. Our country has one of the best records in the world for respecting that right.

The right to asylum will always result in censure from governments unable to understand it, as has been demonstrated once again. In the past, it was the South American military regimes that were the ones to censure the Mexican Government for granting asylum to thousands of Latin American political militants. Now it is the powerful U.S. Government that is doing it. However, if the validity of a principle such as that of political asylum were to depend on the might of the demanding country, the principle would cease to exist.

The Mexican Government has refused to extradite William Morales, and this decision deserves the people's support, because it strengthens national sovereignty in its confrontation with foreign pressure. Undoubtedly there will be reprisals. In fact, there already are reprisals, and we must be prepared to resist them. Sovereignty is not negotiable.

President Urges Nationwide Fight Against Drugs

PA3006152788 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 28 Jun 88 p 4

[Article by Diana Maria Konupek]

[Excerpt] President Miguel de la Madrid on Monday summoned all fronts of society to join together and move ahead in the war against the "crime and the disease" of illegal drug use and trafficking.

The chief executive said he stands behind Mexico's obligation as a member of the international community to do its part in fighting the drug problem, which threatens the peace and health of all of humanity.

"As the chief executive, as a Mexican, and as the father of a family, I call on my countrymen to fight united against the crime and disease," he said.

The president made his address at the Attorney General's Office where the "International Day Against the Illegal Use and Trafficking of Drugs" was celebrated.

De la Madrid declared that Mexico is "vigorously committed" to the battle for the safety and well-being of Mexican citizens and people from all nations.

"The problem is worldwide, and the world must join together to solve it," he said.

De la Madrid indicated how the various sectors of society in Mexico have stepped up their battle against drug trafficking and drug dependency.

First, he pointed out, the federal government, as it has in the past, will continue to take an active role in the war against drugs.

"It is a question of the state. In this fight, various government authorities are intervening: our Armed Forces with bravery and efficiency, the attorney general, the Secretariat of Health and the Secretariat of Public Education. According to their respective areas they are battling against the narcotics trade and drug prevention," he said.

De la Madrid noted that the National Council Against Drug Addiction has also been actively waging the war against drug dependency.

"The work done here, for reasons of solidarity, will also benefit other countries," he said. [passage omitted]

El Salvador

People 'Welcome' Shultz With Clashes, Protests

PA3006020988 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] George Shultz, the ambassador of death, is coming to El Salvador, and our people welcome him with demonstrations and clashes!

A guerrilla ambush was carried out against the Oromontique Battalion on the coastal highway, resulting in seven casualties. The report says that at 0800 on 29 June, a guerrilla unit ambushed a military truck carrying members of the Oromontique Battalion's 2d Company. The ambush was carried out near the 14 July neighborhood, Jiquilisco jurisdiction, and we inflicted seven casualties—six of whom are seriously wounded. Our units withdrew from the area without any problem.

We have also received complete details of an ambush we had already reported. The details complete the information we already have. The results of the 28 June ambush at km 97 of the Santa Ana-Metapan highway are as follows: The vehicle carried 12 soldiers, and they sustained 8 casualties. The soldiers were members of the 2d Infantry Brigade's Tazumal Battalion. Our comrades withdrew and later clashed with members of the same battalion who were guarding the electricity system in San Jorge. The fighting lasted ½ hour, and the 2d Infantry Brigade's troops sustained two more casualties. An O-2 airplane and a helicopter gunship had to come to the soldiers' aid. In all, 10 casualties were sustained by the 2d Infantry Brigade on the Santa Ana-Metapan highway.

Army Repels FMLN Attack on Garrison; 8 Wounded

PA2906143288 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Army troops repelled an FMLN attack on the Zacatecoluca garrison and the Entre Rios cotton cooperative at daybreak today that left seven soldiers and one woman injured.

FMLN guerrillas, probably from the Anastasio Aquino Front, carried out two simultaneous attacks with rifle and mortar fire on the DMIFA [Armed Forces Engineers' Military Detachment] garrison and the Entre Rios military base, located at the cotton cooperative of the same name, about 20 km east of Zacatecoluca, La Paz Department.

According to reports, seven Army soldiers were wounded and the guerrillas suffered an unknown number of casualties. The guerrillas started a fire in order to burn 2,800 bales of cotton, 17,000 quintals of fertilizer, and the small crop-dusting planes. During the attack on the engineers' garrison, 15 houses were heavily damaged as a result of the guerrilla fire. [passage omitted]

Military sources reported the death of three national policemen who were blown up by a mine in Berlin, Usulutan Department.

According to the report, the attack took place at 1030 outside of Berlin, 118 km east of the capital, while the agents were on patrol. They were identified as Jorge Roberto Mejia Canada, 22, Felix Gonzalez Guzman, 31, and Luis Antonio Gonzalez, 23.

Honduras

Lopez Contreras Responds to D'Escoto Note

PA3006213488 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 30 Jun 88 p 7

[Letter from Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras to Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman—dated 28 June]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, Honduras

28 June 1988

His Excellency Dr Miguel D'Escoto Brockman
Foreign Minister
Managua, Nicaragua

Mr Minister:

I address Your Excellency in reference to your note of 16 June, published in LA PRENSA on 17 June.

1. It has surprised me that a note from a Foreign Ministry headed by a traditional, continuous 9-year administration should have departed from the classical diplomatic norm.

Your Excellency says that it is "totally unfounded to state that the bilateral agreement between the presidents of Honduras and Nicaragua of 7 August 1987 (on postponing the date of oral hearings on the suit filed by Nicaragua against Honduras with the International Court of Justice [ICJ]) "was for the purpose of withdrawing the suit." [quotation marks as published]

If the foreign minister would calmly read the final part of the bilateral agreement, he will see that it states: "...with the understanding that said judicial situation will be reexamined by them during the meeting of Central American presidents that will take place within 150 days, according to the established plan, to agree on desisting from recourse to international judicial action on the Central American situation."

If the minister would calmly read the first paragraph of the section of the Esquipulas II agreements to which his note refers, he will see that it states: "the addendum in question (the bilateral agreement) had as its objective the withdrawal of the suit in line with the development and application of Esquipulas II."

2. As for the Honduran position that the Nicaraguan suit violates the principles established in the inter-American system, since judicial proceedings were begun without first exhausting the special Contadora procedures, since judicial recourse is incompatible with the implementation and fulfillment of the Esquipulas II procedures, and since the topic has already been widely debated before the ICJ, it is now up to that court to decide who is right under the law.

3. Your Excellency states that Honduras "has been totally discredited and has been isolated because of its international conduct."

The minister is probably considering as discredit the doubtful news reports published in his propaganda organs. Those publications do not discredit any state that is the target of their attacks.

Honduras is not isolated. Most of its close friends are among the democracies, because it can present clean democratic credentials to the world. This is a source of pride to President Azcona's government. Even the USSR has invited Honduran officials to visit that nation. One thing Honduras does not do is send high-ranking government officials to beg for military or economic aid from other countries.

4. The minister says "both the report prepared by the CIVS [International Verification and Follow-Up Commission] and the course of events" have shown that Honduras has not fully complied with the Esquipulas agreements and that it had even "sabotaged the promise to allow on-site verification."

Allow me to remind you, Your Excellency, that the CIVS was "received" by the presidents of the Central American states in San Jose, Costa Rica, and that they unanimously agreed to entrust its functions to the Executive Commission. Daniel Ortega's signature is on the Alajuela Declaration. It would be wise for Your Excellency to consult with him on this matter.

5. Beyond the framework of your vivid imagination, it must be clarified for the record that Honduras withdrew its request for a Security Council meeting in April precisely because in the declaration issued at the fifth Executive Commission meeting, Your Excellency promised in No 1, Paragraph 7 to "present the Nicaraguan Government's withdrawal of the ICJ suit filed against the Honduran Government on 28 July 1986 at the latest on the day of the sixth Executive Commission meeting."

6. In view of Your Excellency's promise, presumably made on behalf of the Nicaraguan Government, Honduras gave you the benefit of the doubt and, consequently, in good faith requested the sixth Executive Commission meeting to give the Sandinist government the opportunity to fulfill its promise or to reveal its determination to openly break the promise.

7. Allow me to reaffirm that the Honduran Government is willing to do its part to fully achieve the objectives of Esquipulas II, trusting that the other states will do the same instead of trying to cover up their rebelliousness with manipulated solutions and that they will loyally follow the rules contained in the "Procedures for the Establishment of a Firm and Lasting Peace in Central America."

It was hoped that Nicaragua would fulfill the promises voluntarily made in Esquipulas II regarding the cease-fire, amnesty, democratization, and, in short, national reconciliation.

Your Excellency's enlightened government, however, is using the Sapoa agreement to block the Esquipulas II agreements' progress on the points Nicaragua has always opposed; namely, a permanent cease-fire, the immediate release without excuses of 5,000 political prisoners, an end to the party-government-Sandinist Army's influence, national reconciliation, and an end to aid to unconventional forces in El Salvador.

8. Allow me to clarify, Your Excellency, that my newspaper article, which inspired your lengthy and incomprehensibly emotional letter, met the modest and obligatory purpose of informing the Honduran people of various aspects of the political trial promoted by Nicaragua against Honduras over an issue that has been the subject of the Contadora document and the Esquipulas II agreement. It would be inconceivable, Your Excellency, for a press article to influence the ICJ's impartial judgement. Your Excellency seems to distrust the professionalism of that ranking court and, to this effect, seems to be fruitlessly attempting to influence it beyond legal channels through paid ads in newspapers. Honduras trusts the strength of the judicial argument it has maintained in court and does not need to resort to propaganda to defend its rights in judicial matters.

I take advantage of this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency the assurances of my distinguished regard.

Carlos Lopez Contreras
Foreign Minister

Nicaragua

Ortega on Cuba Visit, Shultz Trip, Cease-Fire

PA3006225288 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1916 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega at a special meeting with EPS military commanders at the Olof Palme Convention Center in Managua—live]

[Text] We returned from Havana this morning. We went to Cuba on an official visit along with Comrades Jaime

Wheelock, Luis Carrion, and other Nicaraguan comrades. The end of my visit to Havana coincided with the end of the cease-fire period on 30 June.

Every time we visit Havana or Moscow, the enemies of the revolution speculate, invent things, and try to manipulate these visits to destroy the fraternal, friendly, and revolutionary relations that exist among revolutionary peoples. That attitude, the desire to criticize those trips and visits, can be described as clear U.S. Government interference.

The U.S. Government wants to decide with which countries Nicaragua should have relations, with whom Nicaragua should maintain relations and with whom it should not maintain relations. The United States wants even more than that. It is not only interested in influencing the Nicaraguan Government so it follows U.S. dictates. The United States wants us to make trips to Chile, Paraguay, or Haiti. If we were to visit Chile, Paraguay, and Haiti, the U.S. Government would be happy. However, we are an independent nation, and we decide who our friends are. And, regardless of speculation and the campaigns the Americans mount whenever we make this kind of trip, we will not renounce our relations. We want good relations with all countries in the world. We have particularly fraternal relations with Cuba. We went to Cuba to exchange views on the economic situation and the way the Cuban people face it, [words indistinct] the world situation and the status of world peace.

During this visit I received a decoration, the Jose Marti Order, on behalf of the Nicaraguan people.

Concerning the economic problem, which also includes the war and the aggression, we spent many hours with Comrade Fidel and with other comrade Cuban leaders. We worked all day yesterday and all night until 0600 or 0700 this morning, when I went to the airport to return to Managua.

Comrade Fidel and the Cuban people were moved by Nicaragua's difficult situation, and the Cuban Government decided to write off, to erase a debt Nicaragua had with Cuba amounting to $50 million. This is despite the fact that Cuba, as all developing nations, has economic problems.

In commercial trade between our two nations, Cuba has granted Nicaragua preferential treatment: Cuba gave us $1.70 of Cuban products for each dollar of Nicaraguan products we sent them. Now, Cuba has decided to increase the preferential treatment to 2 to 1. This means that for each dollar of Nicaraguan products sent to Cuba, they will give us $2 of Cuban products. [applause]

Comrade Fidel also decided to guarantee a free, donated supply of oil to Nicaragua during 1988, 1989, and 1990. We will receive 90,000 tons of oil a year. [applause] That is 270,000 tons of oil. He also agreed to supply us with raw materials—to the extent possible—so that many of our plants that are operating at low capacity may operate. These benefits will also guarantee more work for industrial workers and will enable us to have more products for Nicaraguans and for our commercial trade with Cuba, Central America, and other countries.

Another decision by the Cuban Government was to supply us with 15,000 tons of cement for the Atlantic residents of Nicaragua every year until 1990. They will supply us with a total of 45,000 tons of cement. [applause] They will also send 50,000 food rations to the Atlantic residents of Nicaragua through 1990. [applause]

In the northern area of the Nicaraguan Atlantic region, we have a very large investment we have not exploited yet. This is a lumber area that we have not exploited because we lack foreign exchange to purchase an electric processing plant that costs $5 million or $6 million. We do not have the money to buy this equipment. We also have to make other investments [words indistinct], and these investments could cost as much as $38 million to $40 million.

Regarding Cuba's cooperation in this, we told Fidel that we could create a joint venture, because we currently have joint ventures in Nicaragua. Fidel does not want joint ventures, however, because he believes Cuba's cooperation should not be used for establishing joint ventures with Nicaragua. He prefers to make a Cuban investment. Cuba would use its foreign exchange to buy and install the electric plant. The foreign exchange they would use for this purpose is also needed by Cuba, but they would invest it because they understand the Nicaraguans' difficult situation. This plant would have a very large, positive impact on the northern area of the Nicaraguan Atlantic region, as it means jobs for 1,100 to 1,500 people.

Cuba also decided to renew its technical assistance and other aid to our sugar refineries and to give assistance to some 2,000 hectares of rice plantations. They will do so with products, spare parts, and equipment produced by Cuba or that they have to import.

There are also several agreements for assisting cattle, tobacco, and vegetable production. If we add up all the aid Cuba has decided to give Nicaragua, we are talking about at least $150 million. This proves the Cuban people's readiness to cooperate with the Nicaraguan people so we can be better prepared to counter the critical situation imposed on us by the U.S. Administration's aggression.

While Cuba—which is equally slandered and denigrated by the U.S. Government—makes these decisions, the U.S. Government has Secretary of State Shultz touring the

Central American countries and following guidelines contrary to the ones followed by Cuba. The Yankee government accuses Cuba of terrorism and subversion, but the U.S. Government is really the one guilty of terrorism and subversion. Shultz has not brought a message of peace to Central America. He arrived in Guatemala with an unfriendly message, a message full of hatred for the Nicaraguan people, aimed at seeking a way of isolating Nicaragua and of attaining more resources from the U.S. Congress to continue escalating the war against Nicaragua. He is even seeking a consensus among the Central American countries to invade Nicaragua, because the U.S. Government does not rule out that possibility.

Consequently, we see two attitudes and actions that clearly say who is acting in favor of peace, who is acting in favor of the Nicaraguan people, who is acting in favor of the Central American people, and who is acting against the Central American people. Cuba advocates the Contadora negotiating process, the Esquipulas agreements, and the Sapoa agreements, while the United States opposes the Contadora process, the Esquipulas agreements, and the Sapoa agreements. We already know what this means: more bloodshed for the Nicaraguan people and the Central American people.

The illegal, warmongering policies implemented by the United States violate international law; they are an effort to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution. The United States is increasing its enemies in Latin America because it has something against the Central American people and the Panamanian Government and people. The United States also has something against the Argentine people, because it decided to support the UK's invasion and war against the Argentine people on the Malvinas Islands. The United States also supported and participated in recent military maneuvers organized by the UK—right there on the Malvinas Islands.

The U.S. Government and Reagan—who claims he is worried about democracy and wants to destroy Sandinism because he wants democracy in Nicaragua—are quite happy with Pinochet in Chile, the military officers who carried out the coup in Haiti, and Stroessner in Paraguay. All their hate and attacks are aimed at the Nicaraguan people. These are two completely different attitudes.

The U.S. Government seeks more funds to continue sowing destruction and death among the Nicaraguan people; the Cuban Government takes actions in favor of the Nicaraguan people's lives. These are two completely different attitudes.

What kind of proposal could Shultz be bringing to Central America? He has clearly said he will not bring a peace proposal. When he has been asked why he does not visit Nicaragua, he has replied that the United States is not carrying out any negotiations with Nicaragua.

It is clear they are not interested in negotiating with Nicaragua. They are interested in putting an end to Nicaragua. They have been carrying out some actions that must be taken seriously, such as shipping large quantities of plastic bags and coffins to the Panama Canal Zone.

The United States is going to such extremes as to be ready to put the bodies of young Americans in plastic bags and coffins. Could you imagine what their feelings are toward the Nicaraguan, Panamanian, and Salvadoran people, because a U.S. invasion would most likely take place in Panama, El Salvador, or Nicaragua. We do not think the United States may be planning an invasion of Haiti to turn it into a democracy or that it may be planning an invasion of Chile and Paraguay to turn them into democracies. It is clear that the United States is pointing toward Panama, Nicaragua, and El Salvador.

We are gathered here with EPS officers, commanders, and fighters. Gathered here are 1,200 EPS officers and commanders from the farthest corners of our country. Look how strong our revolution is: We have gathered here all our commanders, despite constant attacks from the contras and despite the danger of a Yankee invasion. We know that they could wipe us all out with a bomb here, but they would not be able to defeat the resistance of the entire Nicaraguan people. [applause]

I could tell the U.S. Government this afternoon or tomorrow to come up with evidence of a Nicaraguan arms buildup. They can only envision struggles where the enemy's hands are tied. They view us as an enemy and want our hands tied, but we are not foolish enough to confront the Yankee government under such circumstances. So whenever the Americans come here to wage war or aggression, they will find an enemy with free hands and fists carrying rifles, an enemy that is not tied to anything but to his conscience, to his awareness, and to his Sandinist ideology.

We are sure that not a single one of our officers or our soldiers would allow our Army to become depoliticized. But, what does depoliticize mean?

It means turning you into robots and machines unable to think politically. When the enemies talk about depoliticizing the Army, they mean changing the mentality of Army men (?in the countryside) into serving imperialism, exploiters, and those who denigrated, abused, and killed Nicaraguan people in 1979.

We do not impose conditions here; there is revolutionary consciousness in each Nicaraguan officer and soldier. We are strong not so much because of the number of rifles we have, but because of the degree of consciousness we have. Our strength and the EPS's fighting ability lies there.

We immediately reject claims by the Yankee government, the contras, and the reactionaries that our Army should not be called a Sandinist Army. If we were to consult all members and officers of our Army, they would unanimously agree to continue calling our Army the Sandinist People's Army. [applause, slogans]

Today, 30 June, is the deadline of a [number indistinct]-day cease-fire unilaterally declared by the Nicaraguan Government. We are not friends of war but of peace. Because we want peace, we have an army to defend the Nicaraguan people's right to peace.

We are involved in a very complex negotiating process. We already discussed it this morning. We cannot disassociate the negotiating efforts of Contadora, Esquipulas, and Sapoa. They are three negotiating processes with a single objective: peace in Central America.

We do not want peace through force as the United States wants to impose on us, but peace through negotiations by recognizing the constitutional order of each Central American country. There is a constitutional order; there is a Constitution. Any peace agreement—and I am referring to the Esquipulas and Contadora agreements—must be in keeping with Nicaragua's constitutional order.

We have showed much flexibility in this regard. We have shown extreme flexibility—a flexibility that is reaching or has reached its limit. We will not be the ones that will declare war, however; war was declared against Nicaragua when President Reagan took over in 1981. That war is still here.

Despite a suspension of offensive operations, more than 1,000 people from the revolutionary front were kidnapped during this period. Attacks against civilians continue despite a suspension of offensive operations. The mercenaries have even killed Nicaraguan children. This infuriates us. Under these circumstances, it would be appropriate to make these criminals pay for their crimes.

But we are not going to do so. Today, in fact, we are insisting on keeping the Sapoa agreement alive. Even if the Yankees and the contras say the Sapoa agreement is dead, we insist on saying that it has not died. We still abide by the agreement, and we insist that it is still in effect. By the same token, if we abide by the Sapoa agreement, we also recognize the existence of the Verification Commission composed of OAS Secretary General Baena Soares and Cardinal Obando y Bravo.

We recognize the Verification Commission, and that commission has not been disowned—at least until this moment—by the Yankee government and the contras. In fact, some financial aid has been granted to the commission. Cardinal Obando y Bravo has received a few thousand dollars, but I do not know if the OAS has received any money. The Verification Commission has not been disowned, however. If the Nicaraguan Government recognizes the commission and if neither the Yankees nor the contras have dared to say publicly that they disown the commission, then the commission is valid. Given that the commission has already received some funds, it would be logical for it to start working. If it has been receiving money, then it should be doing some work.

Today we are sending to Baena Soares and Cardinal Obando y Bravo a message signed by Humberto [Ortega], who heads the Nicaraguan Government negotiating team. In this message, he formally requests that the witnesses to the talks carry out an on-site verification of the charges the Nicaragua Government has made regarding the contras' violations of the cease-fire agreement. If the contras want to level any accusation at Nicaragua, they must address the commission.

The second paragraph of the Sapoa agreement states clearly that the technical assistance and services needed by that commission to allow and expedite the compliance, follow-up, and verification of that agreement will be requested from and entrusted to the OAS secretary general. It clearly indicates that this is a function of the Verification Commission. If the Nicaraguan Government has declared a truce or a cease-fire for 30 days—and it has been announcing cease-fires for some time now—and if the Nicaraguan Government has proof that the counterrevolution has been violating the cease-fire despite having promised before witnesses to respect the cease-fire, then it is time for the Verification Commission to start operating. It is for this reason that we are sending it this message. Let them come and conduct an on-site verification of the charges made by the Nicaraguan Government. Let the commission verify the evidence the Nicaraguan Government has about the violations by the counterrevolutionaries, which include kidnapping, murder, and attacks on the Nicaraguan population.

In short, we feel the Sapoa agreement is still alive. The contras say that they have a Board of Directors and that the directors are taking turns in assuming its leadership. The one in charge now, an individual named [Adolfo] Cesar, is the one who should be sending an answer to our request that a meeting be held here in Managua on 26, 27, 28, and 29 July.

Through other channels, which are not the appropriate ones, the contras have been sending messages saying that they are not coming to Managua, that the meeting should be held outside Nicaragua, that the meeting must include the participation of the Nicaraguan president, and that certain Central American presidents must be witnesses and guarantors of the meeting. They did not mention Sapoa at all.

The contras feel they are part of Esquipulas. That is absolutely ridiculous, because they did not sign the Esquipulas agreement and because they are not a government. They are criminals; they are terrorists and mercenaries. They should be thankful that we are giving them a chance to save their skins and to rejoin political life here in Nicaragua to spare [words indistinct] the Nicaraguan people's sacrifice.

At the beginning, they, not we, insisted that we meet in Managua. We were not interested in the mercenaries coming to Managua, but they insisted on coming here. Many people began to mediate. They recommended to us that it would be good to let them come to Managua. They told us: Why don't you meet with them in Managua? We agreed and said: Let them come to Managua; it is all right. And they came to Managua. Now, they do not want to meet in Managua. They had certain expectations about their visit to Managua. They thought that as soon as they arrived in Managua, the people would rush to the streets, as the people did when the 12 [prerevolutionary anti-Somoza group] entered Managua, when [words indistinct] Somoza's men. When the 12 arrived in Managua, the people rushed to the streets to welcome them. The contras thought they would receive a joyful welcome. They thought thousands of Nicaraguans would greet them as heroes.

When they arrived in Managua, they faced the repudiation of the Nicaraguan mothers, who have a right to express themselves. They were repudiated by the Nicaraguan people. Only a few dozen people, including the members of the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board and the press, met the contras when they visited certain areas in Managua.

There is, therefore, no reason for us to meet outside Managua. We insist that the meetings continue in Managua. Comrade Humberto is and will continue to be the head negotiator. He has been heading the Nicaraguan Government delegation up to now.

We propose new meetings in Managua on 26, 27, 28, and 29 July. Let us wait and see their response to this proposal. We also state once again our willingness to allow the OAS Pan-American Development Foundation to act as the neutral organization in charge of delivering the humanitarian aid the contras claim to need very badly. We reiterate our willingness to do so.

We demand that the contras fulfill the commitments they made before the witnesses. They promised they would release 66 kidnapped people. They have not done so. They have been asking some countries; for example, they mentioned Guatemala... [changes thought] There are a couple of countries between Nicaragua and Guatemala. They are holding those people in Honduras, so why not release them in Honduras at the camps they have there? If they want to release them in Nicaragua, let them release those people in Nicaragua, but they have no reason to be asking other countries. With that behavior, they are simply confirming what they are: a group of liars and criminals who do not keep their promises.

There are members of the Mafia who keep their promises, but the contras are worse than the Mafia. They have no idea whatsoever about keeping one's word. We also demand that the contras allow the Red Cross to go to the camps in Honduras and to the camps the contras claim to have in Nicaragua. The Red Cross can talk to the people the contras are holding as alleged combatants to find out how many of them are willingly there and how many are kidnap victims.

We will again extend the cease-fire until 31 July 1988. We will do that hoping the contras agree to meet by the end of July, because at that meeting we could discuss the points that have not been approved. Twelve of the 32 points of the Nicaraguan Government proposal have not been approved.

Twenty points have already been approved. Only 12 points remain. This is our official stance. This is a sign of good sense. This is a sign of responsibility by the Nicaraguan Government. We are sure all our Army officers and soldiers understand this measure perfectly well. We do not want to give up on the possibility of a negotiated solution, but this does not mean that we are going to lower our guard. We, Nicaraguans, are not going to lower our guard.

We know that the contras have not been keeping their word. We know that the contras are already infiltrating forces from Honduras. The contras are infiltrating these forces along the Nicaraguan border to continue escalating the war. All officers, soldiers, and Nicaraguans must maintain permanent combat readiness to face the mercenaries when they arrive and break the truce.

An EPS unit cannot nonchalantly say: The contras are now attacking cooperatives in this area. They are now killing women and children. We must immediately send our troops to crush and annihilate the enemy. The EPS respects the cease-fire. Any contra who can be told to or persuaded to discontinue his activities [words indistinct] Sapoa. However, those contras who are guided by the Yankee government through Somozist guardsman Bermudez have already broken the cease-fire. They will continue their provocations. They will continue attacking civilians and transportation. We must be merciless with these contras. We must use all our energy, creativity, and operational capabilities to strike and crush these contras.

Such is the readiness of our Army. Such is the readiness of the Nicaraguan people. Their stance is compatible with the desire for peace and the desire to defend the right to peace. They are facing those who violate the cease-fire.

The economic problems are serious. We are striving to find solutions like the ones that have been found in Cuba. We are making efforts in that direction. In this

meeting, it was clearly established that although the fighter's minimum needs for shoes, clothing, and food are assured, our Army's soldiers have economic problems. Why? Because in most cases each soldier is his family's breadwinner. He has to take care of his family. So, when we talk of meeting the demands of defending the revolution, we do not mean placing our Army's soldiers and officers in a privileged situation. We are talking about comrades who, like the rest of Nicaragua's workers—the workers of the industrial, agricultural, health, teaching, and central government sectors—are experiencing problems. The soldiers from the interior of the country are experiencing economic problems and difficulties. We cannot have these soldiers without uniforms or boots. We are going to resolve their problems [words indistinct]. It is important that you realize this, because some sector might think that our Army has a privileged position.

In fact, the Army's only privilege is to be in the front line at the battlefield. [applause] The fighters of the BLI [Battalions for Unconventional Warfare] and the [name indistinct] and the fighters who are in the mountain areas and the border areas have the privilege of being there, courageously and proudly defending all the Nicaraguan people, their homeland, and the revolution. That is their only privilege!

We have economic problems, but this does not mean we will not seek a solution to the workers' problems. We are most interested in protecting them, because the organized workers of the industrial, farming, health, education, and government sectors are members of the Army and the Interior Ministry.

We have talked with Comrades Luis Carrion and Jaime Wheelock and asked them to see how we can get some products to help the comrades who earn the lowest salaries. We will try to subsidize some products so the workers can pay lower prices. In other words, we are trying to resolve the problem affecting all the organized workers, who have been affected by the latest economic measures. That, however, does not mean things will be left as they are. We will organize ourselves better, distribute our forces even better, and seek better long-term solutions. We will not resolve the problem by raising salaries, but we can resolve it by making it easier for the comrades with the lowest salaries to buy basic goods. They should pay only a percentage of those products' prices, thus making things easier for them and their families.

Comrades, this is a historic meeting. This is the first time that all the comrade officers and commanders of big, medium-sized, and small units throughout our territory have met together. The meeting is being held at a time when the problem of the war weighs more heavily on the Nicaraguan people's shoulders. It was important for us to talk quite clearly, as we have done this morning, and to have an idea of our situation. We will be clearly aware of our immediate tasks, how we will fulfill those tasks, how we must have good relations with the contras who accept the suspension of offensive operations, and how we can only have bad relations with the contras who do not accept the suspension of offensive operations.

We must continue strengthening the spirit and morale of our Army and fighters. The example of our officers and commanders will generate more confidence, solidarity, and combat spirit among our workers and peasants wherever our Army units are deployed. We held this meeting at a historic moment, because many dramatic things may happen in the next few days and weeks. Something is bound to happen after Mr Shultz' trip. We have always been and will continue to be optimists, so we think there is a possibility that a serious proposal for negotiations may be made. We are also realists, however, so it is possible that no serious negotiations will be held and that Mr Shultz' trip will result in a military offensive.

This meeting is held at a time when we foresee economic problems. It is therefore necessary to rely on the people's inexhaustible reserves, meaning the men's and women's spirit and ideology.

Someone could tell us: OK, but I am not going to eat with awareness and idealism. When awareness and idealism do not remain mere theories, they turn into productivity; a person becomes more productive in his assigned task. The man with strong awareness and idealism will be willing to work for as many hours as it may be necessary in these difficult moments. That man will produce more. We can therefore say that awareness and idealism can be transformed and expressed through production. They can also be expressed through the defense of the revolution; that is, they can be expressed not only economically—through production—but also militarily. They are expressed in the willingness to adapt to the current difficult circumstances and to continue to fulfill and even exceed the current plans, although there may be fewer resources. That is what idealism and awareness bring: the ability to make full use of resources, no matter how meager they may be.

These are qualities of the Nicaraguan people. Nicaraguan peasants, workers, soldiers, Interior Ministry and EPS fighters, FSLN militants, the Nicaraguan people, the Sandinist people, and the revolutionary people of Nicaragua have that awareness and idealism. These qualities make our people invincible and allow them to overcome all obstacles and difficulties, so that some day we will be able to build this society in peace, which is what all of us Nicaraguans are longing for. We will be able to build the society Sandino, Carlos Fonseca, and German Pomares fought for. We will be able to build that society in the peace for which all of us Nicaraguans are struggling today with our unending cry of: Free Fatherland [crowd shouts: "Or death!"; applause]

Humberto Ortega Statement on Military Defenses

PA3006232488 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1905 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Statement by Defense Minister General Humberto Ortega Saavedra at the Olof Palme Convention Center in Managua—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...Sandinist Air Force anti-aircraft brigades; Sandinist Navy brigades; armored and artillery units; advance and rearguard units; chiefs of general staff; regional chiefs; general staff and command, numbering 1,300 and meeting here at the Olof Palme Convention Center on the 30th day of June 1988 and representing all the EPS fighters, made up of the permanent units of the Patriotic Military Service, of the reserves, and the Sandinist popular militia; recruits; soldiers; chiefs; officers; and civilian workers in our ranks, we proclaim:

1. Confronted by the war of economic aggression imposed on Nicaragua by the U.S. Government to make our people surrender by bleeding us to death and starving us, we will intensify our revolutionary morale and our anti-imperialistic fervor to raise our fighting spirit even higher and to strengthen our will to accept unending daily sacrifice.

2. We support without hesitation the various measures of our revolutionary government to better face the harsh economic and social crisis that the Reagan administration has been promoting against the Nicaraguan working people through a military, economic, political, diplomatic, and ideological siege. This siege has as its spearhead the mercenary forces and the treasonous internal reactionary forces. Right-wing groups and the CIA's LA PRENSA shamelessly endorse this cowardly aggression.

3. Former EPS and Interior Ministry members will withstand with a spirited sense of struggle and selflessness the rigors of strong economic restrictions on wages, which the government had to impose—as it did with other self-sacrificing sectors, such as the teachers and health workers. The goal of these restrictions is to withstand and overcome as best we can the brutal imperialistic siege of the Reagan administration, which seeks to subjugate and suffocate revolutionary Nicaragua.

4. We strongly support the Sapoa negotiating process, which our revolutionary government is promoting. The government has been equally responsibe in promoting the Contadora and Support Group process in the search for the peace for which our people so ardently yearn. These peace efforts have already achieved major goals, such as those achieved in the north Atlantic region between the authorities of our constitutional government and the Miskito and Sumu Indians.

5. We strongly support the steadfastness and energy with which the Sandinist police are enforcing the law. We will continue providing the Sandinist police with our wholehearted support, especially as it enforces the law against reactionaries who violate the constitutional order and against deserters and hoarders, who profit from the troubles affecting our people.

6. In view of the decision by the U.S. Government to increase the indiscriminate aggression of its mercenary forces, and in view of the threat of the direct use of Yankee troops as a desperate effort to attempt to destroy the Sandinist revolution—this threat is also used against the great and courageous peoples of Panama and El Salvador—we will continue to successfully implement our diverse plans for national defense. Adherence to these plans and our aggressive posture on the front lines ensure that the strategic defeat of the mercenary forces is an irreversible process. This goal is also ensured thanks to the revolutionary Nicaraguan people, who will repel the Yankee troops that Ronald Reagan, blinded by his obsession against Nicaragua, decides to send.

With the same patriotic and revolutionary zeal of our workers, peasants, youths, women, and children [5-minute break in reception].

Defense Ministry Reports on Contra Attacks

PA2906123988 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Communique issued by the Public Relations Directorate of the Defense Ministry in Managua on 28 June]

[Text] 1. On 25 June, a mercenary group attacked our troops in Wasla, west of Bilwaskarma, in the autonomous northern Atlantic region. One mercenary was killed and 25 were wounded.

2. The following terrorist actions against civilians and economic targets were carried out by mercenary forces loyal to former Somozist Colonel Enrique Bermudez: On 27 June, a mercenary group kidnapped three peasants in the community of La Pavona, southeast of Abisinia, Jinotega Department.

Bishops Conference Urges Peace, Dialogue

PA3006190688 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Yesterday the Nicaraguan Bishops' Conference issued a pastoral letter in which it urged the international community to contribute more actively to the search for peace in the region. The document called on all Nicaraguans to join efforts, each according to his or her capabilities, for the good of Nicaragua. In the lengthy document, the bishops asked the government, the so-called Nicaraguan Resistance, and the opposition political parties to seek the renewal of a high-level dialogue using peaceful civic and political means. [passage omitted]

Panama

Rumor of Solis Palma Resignation Denied

PA3006182488 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Today the psychological war against Panama continued with the circulation of a rumor that President Manuel Solis Palma has resigned. This, of course, is nothing but a rumor. President Solis Palma is busy carrying out his duties and responsibilities as chief executive.

Foreign Minister on Group of Eight Meeting

PA3006190188 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 28 Jun 88 p 4

[Report by Mauricio Conde and Alberto Vega Vieyra]

[Text] Yesterday Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter said that the United States does not dictate the foreign policy of any of the member countries of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Political Coordination.

The diplomat noted that the Group of Eight's decision in Cartagena to provisionally suspend Panama arose from circumstances prevailing at that moment and not from U.S. meddling.

The Panamanian foreign minister said that he took advantage of the foreign ministers meeting to brief them on U.S. acts of aggression against his country. I even outlined the inconsistency of U.S. foreign policy; specifically, the United States resorted to the measure of nonrecognition, in violation of international laws, Ritter said.

This was the case when the United States resorted to the ploy of recognizing a president it kept in hiding for 4 months and denying that Panamanians' replacement of the president was constitutional. "However, in Haiti's case, the Reagan administration hurried to get that island's new government recognized less than 24 hours after the coup d'etat."

The inconsistency of U.S. foreign policy became evident when the United States "mentioned that the problem is Panama's democratization and when the United States failed to recognize that there had been a legal change in president," he added.

Ritter asserted that arguments he raised before the foreign ministers meeting in Mexico were very sympathetically received. "They asked me to expand on them, so I made it very clear that it already looks like a lie, a fabrication that the United States maintains with regard to Panama, and the fact that it has attacked our country in such a way with its arrogance as its only protection." [sentence as published]

He said that Panama is prepared to participate in all forums in which Latin American integration, self-determination, and international law are discussed. This way we can contribute our experience, which is already vast, particularly with regard to all matters related to Latin America's independence, he noted.

The foreign minister also pointed out obstacles to the region's integration. "Our essential similarity is that we are all Latin Americans, but we face our own unique problems. We are a diverse entity in which there are strong countries and weak ones, such as Panama. In sum, the gamut is very large," Ritter concluded.

Tax Clearance Certificates Invalidated

PA3006175588 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 30 Jun 88 pp 1, 8

[Communique issued by the General Revenue Directorate of the Finance and Treasury Ministry in Panama City on 29 June]

[Text] We hereby inform the public in general, especially the Government and Justice Ministry's Immigration Department, the Office of the Comptroller General, and the Public Registry, that this office has declared all tax clearance certificates issued prior to 15 June 1988 to be expired and totally invalid, regardless of the expiration date written on those certificates.

Therefore, only those national tax clearance certificates issued since 15 June will be considered valid and usable up to their stated expiration date.

Panama, 29 June 1988

General Directorate of Revenue

Finance Ministry Resolution on Tax Payments

PA2906193788 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 29 Jun 88 p 8

[Resolution No 201-0046 issued by the General Revenue Directorate (DGI) of the Finance and Treasury Ministry in Panama City on 24 June]

[Text] The general director for revenues, exercising his legal powers,

Whereas:

1. Article 6 of Cabinet Decree No 109 of 7 May 1970 empowers the general director for revenues to establish comprehensive mandatory rules, pursuant to Finance Ministry policy, to regulate the formal relations between taxpayers and the treasury, and, to perform this function, the general director for revenues has specific powers to enact comprehensive mandatory rules regarding the methods, manner, and places for making tax payments as well as [to enact] appropriate formal requirements to facilitate and improve the oversight thereof;

2. Executive Decree No 17 of 22 May 1988 states that there are local and foreign businesses that during the country's current crisis are affected by legal impediments arising from actions and measures adopted by local and foreign authorities which curtail their ability to pay taxes to the national treasury;

3. Regarding the taxpayers affected by the actions and measures mentioned in the preceding point, it is necessary for this Directorate to enact, in accordance with Article 6 of Cabinet Decree No 109 of 1970, comprehensive mandatory rules through which adequate methods may be adopted to regulate formal relations between taxpayers and the treasury regarding the system for the payment of taxes, insofar as methods, manner, and places for such payments are concerned, as well as regarding advisable formal requirements to facilitate and improve oversight thereof for the entire duration of the effects of such actions and measures.

Resolves:

First: Taxpayers affected by legal impediments arising from actions and/or measures adopted by local or foreign authorities that constitute overriding factors restricting their ability to pay taxes to the national treasury will enjoy an automatic extension of the initial deadlines for tax payments for the entire duration of the effects of such actions and measures, provided the circumstances outlined hereafter in this resolution continue to prevail with regard to their assets.

Second: The taxpayers who will enjoy the automatic extension for payment of the taxes mentioned in the preceding point are those whose assets include, throughout the time referred to, checks issued to them by the national treasury or by any other autonomous state institution, or checks issued by the mentioned sources to other persons and endorsed and delivered to the taxpayer, whether or not the endorsement specifies the taxpayer, which have become part of the assets of such taxpayers, for a total amount that is not less than the amount of taxes owed and payable in accordance with the initial deadlines set by law for the payment of the taxes payable by the taxpayers as persons subject to such taxes or as tax withholding agents.

To continue enjoying the automatic extension, eligible taxpayers must, from time to time, increase their assets in the aforementioned manner in sufficient quantities, and prior to the date due, so their assets will increase by an amount at least equivalent to the amount of taxes that will be payable at a later date.

Third: As a result of the automatic extension for the payment of taxes for those taxpayers whose assets are maintained in the amounts indicated in the previous point, and for as long as the extension is in effect, failure to pay taxes will not generate surcharges or interest. Likewise, none of the legal sanctions established by law, nor any collection process, will be implemented.

Fourth: The taxpayer can use an affidavit issued by a certified public accountant to prove to the appropriate fiscal authorities that he is covered by the automatic extension established by this resolution. The affidavit must state the nature and amount of unpaid taxes, including the original payment deadlines, in accordance with the laws that regulate their payment, and it must also state the sum of the checks from the treasury or autonomous state institutions that are part of the taxpayer's assets.

The affidavit will also prove to the treasury that the taxpayer is up to date in the payment of his expired taxes, as long as the taxpayer is, in effect, up to date in the payment of any taxes not affected by the automatic extension established in this resolution.

Attached to the affidavit as an appendix should be a list of the checks with their complete description (number, date, original payee, amount, and payer). The appendix will only include those checks not listed in previous appendices. When each check is listed for the first time, the certified public accountant must confirm that by stamping each check with a postal cancelling stamp that states: "Inventoried—Resolution No 201-0046—DGI—(accountant's name or signature)."

Without altering the arrangements made in this decree, the Revenue Directorate may, at any time, conduct the investigations and examinations it may deem necessary to determine the taxpayer's actual status with regard to the treasury.

Fifth: Beginning on the date when the effects of the actions and measures restricting the taxpayers' ability to pay their taxes in cash to the national treasury, taxpayers will have an additional 15-day period in which to fulfill their fiscal obligations. The term for fulfilling these obligations was automatically extended because of the provisions made in this resolution. The national treasury will accept as a legal method of payment taxpayers' checks—drawn by the national treasury or by state autonomous institutions with no restrictions, regardless of the date the checks were issued—submitted by the taxpayers for the amount of taxes due.

Additional charges and the interest established by law will be imposed on taxes not paid by the time the extension established in the preceding paragraph concludes. From then on, legal penalties will be applied if necessary.

If a taxpayer without previous authorization from the Revenue Directorate were to use checks that have become part of the assets described in No 2 for purposes other than those stated in paragraph 1 of this resolution, and, with this action, if the assets represented by those checks were reduced to an amount lower than the total owed in taxes—to which the automatic time extension established by the present resolution has been applied—the taxpayer will lose, for all legal purposes, his or her right to an extension.

Sixth: It is announced that this resolution will be in effect 15 working days after its publication in the official gazette. No action can be taken against this resolution through any government channel. However, taxpayers who can prove that when this resolution goes into effect they had checks—of the nature described in No 2 of this resolution—that amount to at least the total amount of taxes owed and that had to be paid prior to the date on which this resolution goes into effect will also benefit from the automatic extension established here for the payment of such taxes.

Legal basis: Article 6 of Cabinet Decree No 109 of 7 June 1970.

To be announced and published

Internal Revenue Director Ricardo Levy

Secretary Noel Caballero

Briefs

Nicaragua Donates Fertilizer

Deputy Agriculture Minister Luis Olmedo Castillo went to Aguadulce Port to receive the ship "Regina Valeria," which brought 1,392 tons of urea fertilizer from Nicaragua for Panamanian farmers and livestock breeders. This SELA contribution is an effective aid to Panama's development at a time when the United States has imposed economic sanctions against Panama. [Text] [*PA3006144988 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 30 Jun 88 p A-4*]

Argentina

Topics for Shultz Visit in August Outlined

PY0107024588 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2216 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Jun (NA)—Argentina's difficulties in meeting its foreign debt payments and in finding ways of mitigating this problem, as well as the Nicaraguan and Salvadoran situation, will be some of the topics U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will discuss here early in August with President Raul Alfonsin and Foreign Minister Dante Caputo.

Today it was learned from government sources that Shultz will arrive in the country early in August in response to a special invitation extended to him by Foreign Minister Caputo earlier this year during their talks in Washington.

Shultz' visit will be the result of an active policy undertaken by the Argentine Government and the Reagan administration to improve bilateral relations.

Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary for inter-American affairs, and Robert Pastorino, deputy assistant secretary at the Department of Defense, have already visited Argentina.

General Vernon Walters, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, and Admiral Frank Kelso, commander in chief of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet, have also visited Argentina.

One of the basic issues to be discussed by Shultz and Caputo will be the Central American situation.

Shultz has recently stated that the United States "will not tolerate any attempt at subverting democracy in Central America."

Also, in his meeting with President Alfonsin, Shultz will refer to the recent summit between President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, where they discussed the reduction of nuclear arms.

It is likely that Shultz will convey the U.S. Government's concern over [Argentine] arms sales to Iran, a concern that was expressed here to Alfonsin by a Reagan special envoy.

It is also quite possible that Shultz will hear the Argentine Government's reasons justifying the need for the United States to resume the sale of materiel to the Argentine Armed Forces. These sales have been suspended since the Malvinas war.

It was Elliott Abrams, in fact, who last month said that the Argentine Armed Forces are supporters of the Argentine democratic system.

Regarding the foreign debt, the Argentine officials will certainly take this opportunity to reiterate to Shultz the need to implement President Alfonsin's recent proposal in the United States; that is, a reduction in interest payments. A government source said: "This subject should at least be discussed."

Regarding the policy of relaxation of tensions being promoted by the Washington government, it is certain that Alfonsin will reiterate the position of the Group of Six to the U.S. secretary of state.

Regarding other possible topics of discussion, the drought affecting U.S. farmers and the Argentine role in the crisis are possible.

Daniel Amstutz, the White House negotiator for agricultural matters at the current GATT talks, visited Argentina this week.

It is not unlikely for Shultz and Caputo to discuss the increasingly strong possibility that Caputo will be elected president of the UN General Assembly that will convene in September, 1 month after Shultz' visit to Buenos Aires.

Shultz is currently touring Central American countries. Yesterday, he harshly criticized the Nicaraguan regime by describing it as "an ideological failure, an economic error," and "a threat" to the four countries he is visiting: El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and Costa Rica.

Bank President Comments on New Agreement

PY3006161988 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1130 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Jun (NA)—Central Bank [BCRA] President Jose Luis Machinea has announced that within 15 or 20 days, at the latest, the government expects to sign a new "standby" [preceding word in English] agreement with the IMF. The disbursement of this new loan will be completed by late 1989.

Machinea said that our country maintains "a negotiating position, not a confrontational one." He admitted, however, that there will be delays in securing new disbursements from the private creditor banks.

In this regard, Machinea said that Argentina will try to conduct the negotiations by focusing on making the payments on overdue interest in order to prevent the debt from being classified as "non accrual" [preceding two words in English] by the foreign banks.

Machinea also said that this year the Argentine trade surplus will total $3 billion, including an $800-million increase as a result of grain prices on the international market.

Lecturing at the offices of the Spilzinger and Associates Macroeconomics Consulting Group, the BCRA president admitted that the economic officials are concerned over the strong monetary impact of the seasonal foreign currency

inflow. He said: "We are studying a mechanism to reabsorb this surplus without resorting to mechanisms such as the bank liquidity ratios," which already "are at the limit."

Concerning inflationary controls, Machinea said that we will have to resort to economic concentration and to fiscal deficit controls. He said, however, that the economic concentration mechanism would only be implemented after the foreign debt negotiations are completed.

Presidential Hopeful on UK Property Bill
PY3006190588 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Excerpt] In Formosa, [La Rioja Province governor and Justicialist Party] presidential hopeful Carlos Menem has announced that if he is elected, he will propose a bill to expropriate all British property in Patagonia until the United Kingdom agrees to satisfactory terms on the Malvinas issue. [passage omitted]

Army Corps Commander Denies Report on Bombing
PY3006155588 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1136 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Cordoba, 30 Jun (NA)—General Roberto Felipe Dominguez, commander of the III Army Corps, has reported the existence of "a campaign to create unrest within the Cordoba military garrison and the province." He made this comment as part of a statement denying the alleged detonation of a bomb in one of the Cordoba garrisons.

A press agency—not NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS—report released yesterday disseminated the rumor of the alleged explosion of a medium-intensity bomb near the officers' mess of Artillery Group No 4 while Gen Dominguez was presiding over a meeting with Army officers.

The commander of the III Army corps was asked about the report, and he said it was "completely false" and that this "rumor is part of a campaign designed to create unrest within our garrison."

He added that "normalcy prevails and every organization is carrying out its [words indistinct] as scheduled."

He reiterated that "the dissemination of rumors is an attempt to create unrest within our garrison, and in the province in general."

Bolivia

Traffickers Said Linked With Tunari Incidents
PY3006140088 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Information Minister Herman Antelo said that antidrug agencies have arrested several people with links to the Patriotic Convergence Axis and to drug trafficking. The minister said that the government has produced evidence of the involvement of drug traffickers and members of this political party, which is considered an ultraleftist group, in the coca growers' attack against the UMOPAR personnel. Antelo said that (Wilson Raymon), a member of the Patriotic Convergence Axis, led the coca growers' attack. He added that drug traffickers Elias Flores and Benigno Aquino also led the coca growers.

According to the minister, both Flores and Aquino, who are deeply involved in drug trafficking, were the main instigators of the Villa Tunari incidents. Antelo said that Melardo Velez, Silvero Anez, (Mateo Tocopagri), Aquiles Montan, and Angel Zambrana were also arrested and that they all have links to drug trafficking and to parties of the extreme left.

The minister reported that Crispin Zabala had dynamite sticks, Genaro Gomes had three rifles, and Felicidad Cespedes had dynamite fuses and grenade fuses. All these people have been arrested and will remain in the custody of the courts, as established by law.

Antelo stressed that the antidrug forces will not permit incidents like the one in Villa Tunari, Cochabamba, and that they will repress any action against their bases. The minister said that the antidrug forces will react swiftly against any action that may threaten them.

Government officials said that the coca growers behaved in a suprising manner, because they knew they were trying to seize a militarized police unit that has a duty to repel any attack.

Antelo said that the UMOPAR forces will react quickly against anyone who attempts to attack them.

Brazil

Sarney on Trip, New Measures; Departs for PRC
PY0107012488 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Excerpts] President Jose Sarney has departed for the PRC. Mrs Sarney is accompanying the president on his 5-day visit to that country. Six ministers, two senators, and five deputies are also in the entourage.

Before departing, at 0230 from Brasilia Air Force base, Sarney delegated the presidency to Chamber of Deputies President Ulysses Guimaraes. The president held a news conference before leaving the Alborada Palace. Three main items were discussed: the reasons for his trip, the signing of bilateral cooperation agreements, and the fiscal amnesty to small business and farms.

Sarney said that his trip to the PRC follows Brazilian foreign policy, which in its first stage developed stronger links with Latin American countries by trying to overcome the differences with them. According to Sarney, the second stage of this policy contemplates closer links with countries like Brazil, but located on other continents.

[Begin Sarney recording] The PRC is very important for Brazil within this framework. The PRC represents to the Orient what Brazil represents in the West. Our two countries have the same levels of development and we have the same problems and similar possibilities.

Therefore, the strengthening of relations between our two countries, followed closely by other Third World countries with levels of development similar to that of Brazil, will nurture the appropriate conditions for Brazil to launch a more open international policy. This will also create conditions to break the technological hegemony of developed countries. [end recording]

During his visit to the PRC, President Sarney will sign agreements in the sectors of transport, energy, space technology, and control of epidemic diseases. The president stressed the importance of the agreements in the field of technology and announced that Brazil and the PRC will launch two satellites in the next few years.

[Begin Sarney recording] The agreements we will sign to develop space programs will have world importance because we will break the hegemony of the developed countries in this field. We will have three satellite systems in use in the world: The American Landsat system, the European Spot system, which is French, and our system with the PRC. We will launch the first satellite from the PRC in 1992, and the second from Brazil, at the Alcantara base, in 1994. The Alcantara base will be ready for launching satellites in 1990.

This is the case of two countries that, while having similar development, have not yet mastered the technology of the developed countries. Until now the developed countries have held a monopoly on technology. This program has four stages: the first stage included the feasibility study, which recently concluded; the second stage includes a decision on the model to be used. We will start with a model [words indistinct]. This model is much more modern than the two other satellite progams now in use. Our model will represent a 10-year technological advance on the other programs. It was begun 8 years ago. We will, therefore, begin with a very modern Brazilian-PRC satellite; the third stage includes the construction of the rockets and satellites; the fourth stage includes the launching of the satellites.

The schedule and deadlines have already been worked out in detail. Our two countries have missions working together in this great program; therefore, it is not something utopic, it is something concrete. [end recording]

Sarney also spoke about the Constituent Assembly approval of a fiscal amnesty to small enterprises. The president said some of the Constituent Assembly decisions are of great concern because of the cost involved. The extra cost of these decisions hinders the implementation of a policy to control the fiscal deficit, he said. The president also announced new measures including the suspension of subsidies and investments in small- and medium-size enterprises and rural farms beginning July.

[Begin Sarney Recording] [Passage omitted] We will have to implement some important new measures to save our fiscal program. The first is a recommendation to the finance minister to suspend, as of July, all investments in rural areas and in small- and medium-size enterprises, because these investments are not profitable. This will continue until we can balance the country's monetary base.

This morning the planning minister and I decided to suspend the appropriation programs affecting small-and medium-size businesses. This will grant us some margin to save our fiscal budget from large deficits and to avoid hyperinflation, which would have serious consequences for the country. This is very serious, but we will take all the necessary measures, rigorously, to contain the public deficit. If we do not do this, we will not be able to continue with the rate of development we are presently enjoying or conclude the process of democratic transition. [end recording]

After the news conference the president attended mass with his wife in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the construction of the Alborada Palace.

Schedule for Sarney Visit to PRC Announced

PY3006133088 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Excerpt] President Jose Sarney will leave for the PRC this afternoon at 1430. Before arriving in Beijing, the president's Boeing airplane will make four stopovers: Manaus, Los Angeles and Anchorage in the United States, and Shangai in the PRC.

Sarney will arrive in the PRC on 3 July. On 6 July, the president will sign an agreement with the PRC Government to build two satellites. On 8 July, he will visit the (Bausha) iron and steel mill.

Sarney will meet with PRC President Yang Shankun, Premier Li Peng, and Comminist Party Central Commission Chairman Deng Xiaoping. [passage omitted]

Sarney Praises Relations With Argentina

PY3006152988 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0849 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 June (TELAM)—Brazilian President Jose Sarney has stated that Brazil has established the best possible relations with Argentina and that the two countries have managed to overcome any disagreements they had, including historical ones. They are now partners, and in addition to commercial agreements, they are reaching cooperation agreements in the nuclear field.

The Brazilian president noted that these nuclear cooperation agreements are extremely important to Latin America because they have refuted any speculation of a nuclear race between Brazil and Argentina.

Sarney said Brazil seeks a policy of integration on the continent and the establishment of a common market. He added: We are starting this project with Argentina and Uruguay.

In a statement to the daily PAGINA 12, Sarney said: We can already say that we have begun the Brazil-Argentina-Uruguay common market and that these agreements are open to the entire Latin American continent.

Finance Minister Nobrega To Visit U.S., Japan

PY3006133688 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega will go to the United States to talk with U.S. bankers about the economic measures taken by the Brazilian Government.

On 3 July, Mailson da Nobrega will go to Japan to negotiate a $600-million loan to pay the interest on the foreign debt for June and July.

According to Sergio Amaral, the Finance Ministry foreign affairs secretary, Nobrega will strengthen economic cooperation with Japan, which is one of the largest investors in Brazil.

Sergio Amaral said that Mailson da Nobrega will probably begin a round of talks with European bankers in July.

Members of Medellin Cartel Sentenced

PY0107020588 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] A Mato Grosso do Sul Court has handed down sentences on members of the so-called Medellin Cartel, one of the largest drug trafficking gangs in the world.

Less than 2 months after being arrested by the Federal Police, eight traffickers were sentenced to 3 to 12 years in jail.

Judge (Divorcir Maran), of the Second Criminal Court, has sentenced the ringleader, farmer Antonio Alves dos Santos Neto, to 12 years and 4 months in jail, and ordered him to pay a 840,000-cruzado fine. Several of Santos Neto's properties were confiscated, such as the 50-hectare lot which he used as a laboratory to process cocaine; 32 head of cattle; a Bradesco Bank savings account amounting to 3,642,000,039 cruzados; and five vehicles: two Volkswagen Saveiro cars, two Volkswagen Santana cars, and a Ford Corcel car. The justice transferred the items to the Federal Fund to Prevent and Fight Drug Trafficking and to Rehabilitate Drug Addicts [Fundo de Prevencao, Recuperacao e Combate as Drogas].

The other members of the gang were sentenced to 3 to 10 years in jail and had to pay various fines.

Police detained these traffickers in the beginning of May 1988 and seized 120 kg of cocaine and 30 kg of cocaine paste, which was purchased in Bolivia.

Antonio Martins Perez, superintendent of the Federal Police for Mato Grosso State, believes that the Cessna plane, which has been missing from (Ponte de Lacerda), Mato Grosso State, since 24 June, may have been hijacked by a drug trafficking gang that operates on the Brazilian-Bolivian border.

Martins Perez said today that (?parts) of Mato Grosso and Mato Grosso do Sul States are strategic points in the route of the drug trafficking gangs.

Central Bank Announces Economic Indicators

PY0107025588 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Today President Jose Sarney signed a decree raising the minimum salary to 12,444 cruzados and the minimum reference salary rate to 8,278 cruzados.

The Central Bank announced the economic indicators of the month: The nominal value of the OTN [Government Treasury Bonds] will be 1,598.26 cruzados as of 1 July. The interest rate on saving accounts will be 20.12. This rate includes 19.53 percent for June inflation and 0.5 percent in real interest.

The UPC [Standard Capital Unit] between July and September was fixed at 1,727.88 cruzados. The UPC is used for adjustments of mortagages. Housing rents with 6-month adjustment clauses will be adjusted by 167.74 percent. Rents with annual adjustment clauses that fall in July will be adjusted by 336.10 percent.

Briefs

Inflation Rate Announced

The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics announced that the inflation rate for June was 19.5 percent. The total inflation rate during the first half of the year was 167.7 percent. [Summary] [*PY3006124788 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2255 GMT 29 Jun 88*]

Chile

Government Against OAS Debate on Haiti

PY0106020888 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] The Chilean Government has abstained from participating in a debate on the Haitian situation as proposed by Venezuela at the OAS Permanent Council. Chile thinks the debate would represent an intervention in Haiti's domestic affairs.

During the OAS Permanent Council meeting to discuss the Haitian situation, Chilean Ambassador to the OAS Javier Illanes said that apart from disrespecting the non-intervention principle, the council is unjust in discussing issues and adopting measures over which it has no jurisdiction, especially when an official representative of the affected country is absent.

Deputy Foreign Minister To Visit Argentina

PY3006161488 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Today Deputy Foreign Minister Ernesto Videla will leave for Buenos Aires as the head of the Chilean delegation to the third meeting of the Bilateral Committee of Economic Cooperation and Physical Integration.

According to a previously arranged agenda, the meeting will be held in Buenos Aires.

Ernesto Videla will participate in two meetings at the Argentine Foreign Ministry.

The Chilean delegation will comprise Enrique Morel, Patricio Prieto, Patricio Munoz, and Milenko Skoknic, all members of the Economic Cooperation Secretariat.

Comments on Ties

PY0107031888 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile in Spanish 0030 GMT 1 Jul 88

[Text] Today Deputy Foreign Minister Brigadier General Ernesto Videla traveled to Buenos Aires to participate in the third working meeting of the Binational Committee of Economic Cooperation and Physical Integration.

Videla reported that in Buenos Aires the committee will analyze the progress attained in the integration process between the two countries. Gen Videla said that Chilean and Argentine cooperation is a permanent process.

[Begin recording] [Videla] The important fact is that trade exchange has improved; we stopped the decreasing volume of the trade tendency. I believe this represents significant progress. The rest of the issues are related to administrative matters.

[Reporter] How would you discribe the current relations between the two countries?

[Videla] They are absolutely normal relations; they have attained a good level recently. We have exchanged important visits. Relations between the two countries can always be improved, and we have attained positive progress in this aspect. [end recording]

Police Break Up Demonstrations Called by CNT

PY0106002088 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Since 1830 this evening, Carabineros have been breaking up demonstration conducted by various labor organizations on a call made by the National Workers Command [CNT].

The CNT called for demonstrations in different cities of the country to take place today. Here in Santiago, the CNT called four demonstrations which were to converge on the park located at the Heroes Station of the subway. Several demonstrations were held on Bernardo O'Higgins Avenue within the area from Lord Cochrane to Ejercito Streets.

Carabineros used water cannons and tear gas to break the demonstrations. Jorge Millan, CNT leader and president of the Chilean Confederation of Private Sector Employees, CEPCh, was arrested when he tried unfold a CNT banner. [passage omitted]

'Revolutionary Front' Attacks Lourdes Grotto

PY3006195388 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Excerpts] The self-styled Revolutionary Front [Frente Revolucionary] has perpetrated an attack against the Lourdes Grotto.

This information was disclosed by Priest Ramon Gutierrez, who said that it was an attack against the Christian faith. [passage omitted]

The individuals responsible for the attack painted the figure of Christ in blue and placed a red flower in his right hand.

Arrests for Carrying Weapons in San Fernando

PY3006195988 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Report by Ivan Astorga from Rancagua City]

[Text] A group of six [as heard] people have been arrested in San Fernando, in the 6th Region, charged with illegal possession of weapons.

Members of the San Fernando Carabineros, during a routine search, found one dismantled M-16 rifle and a Smith and Wesson gun in handbags being carried by individuals.

The arrested individuals have been identified as: R.S.O, 17, from Santiago; M.A.L., 18, and C.E.R., 18, also from Santiago; Juan Caceres Toledo, 25, who lives in Vina Esmeralda, San Joaquin, Santiago; and Marcos Roman Insunza, who lives on Diagonal Paraguay Street, Santiago.

They were interrogated by Carabineros, who were told that the group was only practicing shooting in a sector located 10 km northeast of San Fernando. This lead the Carabineros to believe they are probably linked to an extremist group.

The arrested people have been placed in the custody of the Regional Military Court while the necessary investigations are being conducted.

Colombia

M-19 Sends 12-Point Proposal to Government

PA0107033288 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Jul 88

[Text] The Colombian Government has just issued a communique in response to a lengthy document that was read today by M-19 leader Carlos Pizarro from the so-called red phone in Casa Verde, Meta Department. It was heard in Narino Palace, where government officials were anxiously awaiting the demands of the subversive group that is holding Alvaro Gomez Hurtado.

The truth is that the M-19 position is incomprehensible. They have invoked Bolivar's ideals and have called their proposal a proposal to the nation. They said the aim of the proposal is to achieve coexistence, reconciliation with its enemies, and to find formulas for overcoming disagreements; however, the group did not make any concrete demands. The members of the M-19 said that their plan for finding solutions to Colombia's problems—which they claim is free of sectarian interests—seeks to eradicate the excessive privileges of some Colombians. The following is a summary of the M-19's 12-point proposal:

1. A 60-day cease-fire;

2. A summit for national salvation to establish a dialogue;

3. The sole topic of the summit is to be life [as heard] and reforms;

4. A plebiscite so that the people can approve a national pact;

5. The following is to be the list of participants: the Virgilio Barco government; the Supreme Court; the Senate and Chamber of Representatives; the Attorney General's Office; the Armed Forces—the Army, police, Air Force, and Navy; organizations of the industrial, agricultural and livestock, construction, commerce, and financial sectors; communications media owners; Liberal and Conservative Parties; the Patriotic Union; labor confederations; the Colombian Association of Retired Officers; the National Association of Rural Land Users; the National Organization of Colombian Indians; the presidents of the civic departmental committees; the National Student Movement; the Colombian Teachers Federation; the Colombian Consumers Confederation; the Permanent Committee in Defense of Human Rights; the Association of Relatives of Political Prisoners and Missing Persons; the National Convergence Movement; the country's associations of journalists, artists, and representatives of national sports; the Simon Bolivar Guerrilla Coordinating Board; Dr Alvaro Gomez Hurtado; the M-19 commander general; and the Colombian church;

6. The summit should be supervised by the United Nations and the Contadora and Support Groups, consisting of Panama, Venezuela, Mexico, Argentina, Uruguay, Peru, and Brazil, and a delegate of Pope John Paul II;

7. The summit meeting should be held at the apostolic nunciature;

8. A drive for life in the main squares; [sentence as heard]

9. That same day, the pope should pray for Colombia;

10. All the mayors should hold open town council meetings to discuss ideas for local development;

11. A direct dialogue between the commanders of the Armed Forces and the Guerrilla Coordinating Board in the military forces' headquarters;

12. The promise that Dr Alvaro Gomez Hurtado will attend the beginning of the summit along with the M-19 commander general.

Government Studying Offer

PA3006202588 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Report by Jesus Garzon]

[Text] The M-19, which is holding Dr Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, has delivered a communique to former Conservative Party Minister Celio Andrade Manrique. The message was delivered last night to Andrade personally at his home in northern Bogota. Tuesday the former justice minister met with the M-19 high command at a place far from Bogota. At that meeting, Andrade Manrique talked with the guerrillas about the country's situation and the kidnapping of Dr Alvaro Gomez Hurtado.

[Begin Andrade recording] 1. To read the M-19 proposal over the radio. This proposal expresses our opinion on the path that can and should be taken toward an agreement.

2. This message will be delivered directly by the M-19 commander to the government minister. We request that the wife of Dr Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, Mrs Margarita Escobar de Gomez, be present at the government's headquarters to witness the delivery of the message. We also request the presence of Commander Jacobo Arenas of the FARC's Secretariat. M-19 and media representatives together with notable Colombian citizens will act as witnesses.

5. [number as heard] The message will be delivered on Thursday at 1000 on the frequencies agreed upon by Commander Arenas and the national government. [end recording]

At Narino Palace, the government is studying this most recent proposal by the M-19.

Proposal 'Not Acceptable'

PA0107020888 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0010 GMT 1 Jul 88

[Report from the Narino Palace in Bogota]

[Text] Through Government Minister Cesar Gaviria, the Colombian Government has just released a communique responding to the proposal presented by the M-19 this morning concerning the resumption of a dialogue and a possible truce.

The government communique stated that the proposals [made by the M-19] are not acceptable, because it is imperative that the government be free to act without being influenced by terrorist actions and blackmail. One of the points in the communique states that what Colombia angrily demands is the release of Alvaro Gomez Hurtado and his right to fully enjoy all human rights.

The country has exhibited solidarity in demanding Alvaro Gomez' release. His kidnappers would like to make the country believe that this solidarity is for the M-19 and not for Gomez Hurtado. The communique seems to indicate the government does not accept any conditions and vigorously rejects all the M-19 proposals.

Another relevant part of the communique reads: The principle that has guided the government action and that we reiterate today is that any national political or social agreement must be based on the rejection of violence as a procedure for imposing ideas and defending interests. The Colombian people and their leaders reject all forms of violence, terrorist tactics, violations of human rights, and blackmail, because they will always be unacceptable. There can be neither indulgence in nor complicity with these tactics.

Does this mean that there are no more open doors in this case?

There is another important part of the communique that shows there are. The government reiterates that it will not refuse to examine the possible demands that Alvaro Gomez's kidnappers may present, as long as they do not go against its compliance with the Constitution and Colombian law.

Upon the release of this communique at the Narino Palace, Government Minister Gaviria added that a previous M-19 proposal for a direct dialogue between himself [and the M-19] in Panama or Mexico City would not be accepted. Minister Gaviria did not elaborate on the rejection of that proposal.

In summary, the government in principle does not accept blackmail, but leaves the door open for a dialogue.

In conclusion, Minister Gaviria vigorously stated that in its communique released today through several media, the M-19 forgot to state what would be the specific conditions for Alvaro Gomez' release.

Turbay Accepts Liberal Party Leader Nomination

PA3006165588 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, former Colombian president and current ambassador to the Vatican, expressed his desire to consolidate unity within the Liberal Party after accepting the party's nomination to be its sole leader. Nevertheless, Turbay Ayala said, the upcoming Liberal convention in August must determine the party's [words indistinct]. Turbay Ayala said that full consensus at the August convention is a prerequisite for his assuming the party's leadership.

Ecuador

Bucaram Arrives in Panama; Seeks Asylum

PA0107035688 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0320 GMT 1 Jul 88

[Text] Panama City, 30 Jun (DPA)—Today Abdala Bucaram, former presidential candidate of the Roldosista Party in Ecuador, arrived in Panama City from Miami. Bucaram told DPA that he will request political asylum in Panama.

Bucaram, who is sought by the authorities in Ecuador following an order for his imprisonment for embezzlement, told DPA that he managed to leave Ecuador in a small private airplane that took him to Miami. He later boarded a commercial flight to Panama.

The Roldosista Party leader accused Ecuadoran President-Elect Rodrigo Borja of politicizing Ecuador's judicial branch to remove the main opposition leader.

Bucaram said he would appear before Panamanian authorities within the next few hours to request political asylum. This would be his second self-exile in Panama. His first period of self-imposed exile was in 1985.

Peru

President Garcia Calls for Order, Discipline

PY3006191788 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0223 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Speech by President Alan Garcia to fishermen and the Japanese ambassador at the dedication of a fishing training center in Paita on 29 June—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] From this place, from this port of Paita of [Peruvian hero Miguel] Grau, on this day of the sea and of fishermen, and in front of this technical university, which is a matter of pride for Peru, I call the attention of all Peruvians to the fact that we are misusing

our democracy. There are too many complaints, too much idleness and chaos, too little work, and too little discipline. Where shall we go with a country like this? [shouts, applause]

There should be more prudence, more calmness, and more political dignity. We are accustomed to using democracy instead of living in democracy. Everyone uses democracy in his own way and for his own purposes. Some want to preserve their own economic interest, others to satisfy their political ambition, and others to provoke permanent scandal. [shouts, applause] That is not democracy. That is nothing but disorder, chaos, and confusion. As chief of state, I demand that all those who play a political role exercise more prudence, more calmness, more self-discipline. We are betraying the Peruvian people and the historical destiny of our nation. [shouts, applause]

Today I want to say to all Peruvian politicians, both from the government and the opposition, that these are not normal times for Peru. We are waging a terrible, dramatic war against violence, like we did 100 years ago. Today we are not confronting a foreign enemy who has invaded our country. We have been invaded and we are being undermined by violence, chaos, insubordination, indiscipline, and idleness. We have been invaded by terrorism. We should think about the next 10 or 20 years. What shall we do if we have to wage this war while being divided, engaged in chaotic incidents and provocation? It is my duty to think about the situation in Peru for the next 10, 20, or 30 years because that will be the country of our children. What kind of example are we giving to our children? We are divided by statements, invective, provocations, fancies, and television scandals, while we have a powerful common enemy—more powerful than any foreign enemy. This enemy is terrorism, hatred, violence, insubordination, and indiscipline.

These are not normal times, and, consequently, we cannot engage in a game of scandal, confrontation, and provocation. This situation threatens to lead Peru to more violence and more chaos. We are paving the way for the destruction of democracy in Peru. We are justifying other types of regimes which may attempt to impose order and discipline.

From this port of Paita I want to say that by promoting provocations and incidents we are destroying democracy—or rather, we are showing that we do not know how to live in democracy to our own advantage. [shouts, applause] Some people use democracy to engage in smuggling and to defend themselves from a judge's punishment. Some people use democracy to preserve their immense economic power. Others use democracy to promote scandals and attract voters by putting on a show. [shouts, applause]

What we are doing is promoting insubordination, disrespect for authorities, disorder, and chaos.

I want to say that no economic program can succeed amid chaos, disorder, and embittered, wild confrontation. No future can be built without order. It will be impossible to defend Peru if there is disorder inside Peru. It will be impossible to win the war against terrorism if we do not begin by winning the war against verbal terrorism and public scandal. It will be impossible to move forward without self-discipline.

Peru is going through a dramatic time. We have to raise this banner: Enough arguing! We need more discipline and order, because, otherwise, we will be promoting terrorism and insubordination, which undermine the fatherland.

I believe we should stop and reflect and ask all Peruvians to think about the future. Many schools teach only hatred, distrust, confrontation, and resentment. This is the truth. Many schools only teach hatred and doubt. [shouts, applause] Only slanderous, morbid issues make the headlines today. Is this the way our children should be educated? I tell you that those of us who believe in the future should not agree to this system of promoting hatred and confrontation for the future. We must pursue our great national objectives.

A country like Japan has overcome the nuclear holocaust thanks to its discipline and work. No country can build its future on a constant display of vanity, electoral ambition, conflict, and controversy. It is impossible to work like that.

We must uphold Peru's highest value, which is order. Without order and discipline, it would be impossible to resolve problems and win the war against terrorism, which means total disorder, chaos, violence, and hatred.

That is why I believe it is necessary to attract the attention of the entire country. We are undermining the credibility of democracy through scandal, controversy, and electoral ambition, which suggest to all Peruvians that this display of vanity and scandal is not really democracy and that Peru really needs order on a long-term basis.

The people want security and work. The people do not want scandal, agitation, envy, and hatred because all this leads nowhere. I believe Peru must be placed on its proper course and that it must be given the order it needs. I believe the people want order because they want a future for their children. [applause, shouts]

We have seen shameful incidents that impair our image both at home and abroad because they raise the issue of whether we actually know how to live under democracy. Democracy is used to defend powerful interests, even contraband. Democracy is used here to turn scandal into a political tool. How shall we build our country if we educate our youth amid scandal and if the example that we are giving to the youth is constant scandal, disrespect for authority, and lack of order? Where shall we go? The time

has come for Peru to think about whether we are properly using democracy, whether democracy is being used, and whether all of us are being used on behalf of democracy.

The time has come for us to wonder whether we should not demand more responsibility from all politicians, in order to build our future, because the future is adverse and difficult. No other Latin American country is confronting the tremendous challenge of subversion and terrorism that Peru is confronting. No country is surviving, as we are, in a constant environment of hatred and subversion generated by the reports that are repeatedly disseminated. Only scandal and morbid, grotesque issues make the headlines.

Neither constructive efforts nor good action are considered important. Only a slap in the face, scandal, insult, and offense deserve attention. Where shall we go with a country like this?

Do we qualify to use the instruments of democracy, or are we just showing that we are unfit and that we are using democracy to destroy our fatherland, by cooperating with the Shining Path?

Every day I am more convinced that our country needs more order and discipline. These arguments, fueled by ambition for positions, must be postponed in view of our pressing need for order. Contrary to what some people believe, order does not imply merely discipline in the labor sector, but also order for the powerful, the smugglers, the speculators, and those who do not know how to disseminate reports on the positive actions that are needed to build Peru. All of us have a responsibility to fulfill: politicians, teachers, and journalists. How are we fulfilling that responsibility? Take a look at the daily news, and then tell me whether we are actually fulfilling our responsibility.

The time has come for us to stop and carefully reflect before it is too late, before others do it for us by force. The time has come for us to impose order and discipline in our actions.

There are many people who collaborate with different types of terrorism, like political terrorism, murdering terrorism, economic terrorism, and drug trafficking terrorism. Other people cooperate by promoting scandal.

I believe Peru has a future. I am convinced that even though it is a poor country with little technological capacity, Peru, with work and discipline, can resolve its problems and develop its own modern technology. Japan did it; why can't Peru do it? [passage omitted]

Alleged Shining Path Terrorists Murder Mayor

PY3006160588 Madrid EFE in Spanish
1340 GMT 30 Jun 88

[Text] Lima, 30 Jun (EFE)—Puno Mayor Luis Duenas Peralta was shot dead near his home this morning by terrorists.

This information was confirmed to "Radioprogramas del Peru" by Puno Prefect (civilian governor) Victor Urbiola.

Duenas, a member of the ruling APRA, left home at 0645 (1145 GMT) to inspect a project, when a group of individuals opened fire on him.

Duenas, who was wounded in the head and near the heart, died on the way to the hospital.

Duenas has survived other attacks perpetrated against him and his home.

Puno is the capital of Puno Department and a port on Lake Titicaca along the border with Bolivia.

According to Urbiola, one of the attackers was arrested. It is believed that the attack was perpetrated by members of the Maoist Shining Path terrorist group.